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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

True or false: How incumbent lawmakers will vote on the articles of impeachment against Gov. Fitial will influence my vote this November.

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INSIDE

NATION



President Obama and Mitt Romney vie for the support of women.

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WORLD



Syria's wealthy are seeing their businesses pummeled by the war.

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LIFE & STYLE



Big Bird is trending as a costume character for Halloween.

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Another impeachment in offing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A day after a resolution impeaching him for 16 allegations of felony, corruption, and neglect of duty was defeated in the House of Representatives, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial called on lawmakers yesterday to "move on" even as another impeachment resolution may be introduced as early as January 2013, depending on the results of the Nov. 6 mid-term elections.

Fitial said the issue of impeachment "achieved nothing more than to create an unnecessary division amongst our people and a hindrance in our ability as elected leaders to work together."

"Now that this has been addressed and decided, I humbly ask you and members of the Legislature to put our differences behind us so that we may all come together in the spirit of cooperation for the sake of our people," Fitial told Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan).

Manglona said he could only hope that Fitial is sincere in trying to turn the economy around and fix the ailing economy,

the hospital, and the high utility rates, among other things.

"More actions rather than more calls for meetings are needed. One of the major actions he could do is invalidate the \$190.8-million power purchase agreement. That's a major obstacle to the CNMI's goal of moving forward with

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» Fitial says 'let's move on'

Subpoenaed docs show Fitial phone calls during Buckingham incident

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial made and received phone calls to and from Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro and the governor's security aide/driver DPS Capt. Jermaine Nekaifes around the time former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham was allegedly avoiding the serving of penal summons and during his "escorted" departure from Saipan from the night of Aug. 3 and the early morning hours of Aug. 4.

These are based on phone records that the Special Committee on Impeachment subpoenaed and received from the Department of Finance and IT&E on Tuesday afternoon, shortly before the House was to go into a 2pm Wednesday session to act on a resolution impeaching the governor.



Fitial

The impeachment resolution was defeated by a vote of 10-9 with one absence. At least 14 votes were needed to impeach the governor.

The phone records subpoenaed involved the mobile numbers of Ogu-

See FITIAL on Page 4

Ruth Tighe, 81

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

"She lived a good, full life," 75-year-old Bud White said yesterday of his long-time friend and neighbor, Ruth L. Tighe, a librarian, columnist/writer, educator, environmentalist, and an exceptional citizen who passed away Wednesday night at the Commonwealth Health Center after a long and courageous fight with lung disease. She was 81.

Tighe first came to the Northern Marianas in the late '70s and has since made it her home. Often described as the "The Helen Thomas of Saipan," Tighe more often described herself as a gadfly and wrote a weekly column, "On My Mind," the last one of which came out on Friday at <http://net.saipan.com/personal/omm>.

"On My Mind" is an opinion piece on politics and governance, pension sys-

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Tighe



DELEGATE DEBATE

Saipan Chamber of Commerce executive director Richard Pierce, standing left, introduces delegate candidates Dr. Ignacia Demapan of the Republican Party and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) during the Chamber-hosted 2012 delegate debate Wednesday night at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The mid-term elections is on Nov. 6.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Fund so far OKs 101 refunds; no check disbursement yet. PAGE 5
'Improved enforcement needed to protect Monument resources' PAGE 9

Local

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3 grams of 'ice' result in \$10K fine, probation

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Instead of a mandatory sentence of 25 years in prison, a 29-year-old man convicted of trafficking 3 grams of methamphetamine was instead fined \$10,000 and sentenced to 10 years in probation.

In a written order issued yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo said that Don Sanchez will pay \$83.33 a month starting Dec. 1, 2012, to the Office of Adult Probation until the entire amount of \$10,000 is paid. If he misses or is late on a payment, he will be charged with criminal contempt

and, if convicted, will be jailed for six months for each and every contempt proceeding.

"This could be a harsh sentence if defendant misses multiple payments, but the monthly payment is reasonable and it is far better than a 25-year sentence," he said.

Govendo said the amount of drugs Sanchez was convicted of was three grams or less—an amount less than the size of a dime.

Under the mandatory sentence, Sanchez would be penalized and treated the same as a defendant who may be convicted of trafficking one ton of "ice," who has several prior convictions, and who may have sold "ice" to school kids, Govendo said.

"The defendant in this case having none of those aggravating factors will nonetheless receive a

mandatory sentence of 25 years if the court imposed a prison sentence. Consequently, there is a gross disproportionality which the court urges the Legislature to look into," Govendo said.

Sanchez pleaded guilty to a count of trafficking of controlled substance.

At the sentencing hearing on Tuesday, assistant attorney general Shelli Neal asked the court for a 25-year sentence. Court-appointed counsel Stephen Nutting recommended a sentence of \$10,000 fine with an \$8,000 suspended fine and a probation.

In his order yesterday, Govendo said the 25-year mandatory term without parole or probation for a 29-year-old man convicted of trafficking 3 grams or less of "ice" does not serve the ends of justice.

Japanese Autumn Festival tomorrow

The public is invited to join the Japanese Autumn Festival celebration tomorrow that will be hosted by the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas.

President Nick Nishikawa said the annual festival commemorates the end of the harvest period by thanking the gods for a productive season and praying for happiness and another prosperous year.

Nishikawa said the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas will begin the festivities with a ceremony at the Katori Shrine at the Sugar King Park in Garapan at 10am.

Some 30 religious followers of the Katori Shrine in Japan, including the head priest, will make their annual pilgrimage to Saipan for the ceremony.

The celebration will then proceed to Paseo de Marianas where a bazaar will be set up starting at 4pm. There will be food stands and game booths featuring the Japanese raffle game *fukubiki*, and other exciting games like ring-toss, shooting, and bouncy ball scooping.

The traditional sake barrel breaking ceremony will officially launch Saturday's evening program, and those interested to try sake can join the group.

The program will also feature live entertainment, including cultural dance performances called *Yosakoi* and *Bon Dance*.

"We are inviting the public to join the Japanese Autumn Festival celebration. Everybody is welcome to the event," said Nishikawa. (Clarissa V. David)

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Healthcare Corp. board concurs with Babauta's contract

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Amidst differences in opinion about the public hospital's operations, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board members agreed, at least, on one major issue when they unanimously concurred with the employment contract of CEO Juan N. Babauta.

Corporation board chair Joaquin Torres and vice chair Pete Dela Cruz confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that all board members affirmed the validity and legality of Babauta's contract during an executive session yesterday.

Babauta's contract became the subject of controversy when it was learned that the contract took effect without discussion and endorsement by the board. The issue became more interesting when the administration's press secretary claimed that the governor did not execute a contract for the CEO.

Babauta's two-page contract provides him a \$96,000 annual salary as CEO of the organization. It was signed last July 9 by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, Babauta, and then attorney general

Edward T. Buckingham. Copies of the contract were provided to board members during the executive meeting.

Torres said that Babauta's contract is a "standard contract" given to a government employee and has no allowances, discretionary funds, or special benefits such as travel perks. The CEO is also given a standard number of hours in annual leaves like other government employees. The contract is not retroactive.

Torres and Dela Cruz expressed relief yesterday because the issue about the legality of Babauta's contract is now closed. Those who voted to concur with the contract were Torres, Dela Cruz, Anthony Aguon, and Anthony Raho. Babauta recused himself. Member Roy Rios was excused during the continuation of the special board meeting Wednesday noon. Also present in the voting was legal counsel Allen Hazlip,

who reportedly recommended the board action.

Babauta, prior to becoming CEO, was receiving an annual retirement pension of \$96,000. It was learned that this was used as the basis to determine his compensation for the job.

Torres and Dela Cruz confirmed that Babauta, since assuming the CEO position in October last year up until June, was not paid a salary because he chose to continue receiving his pension.

Around February this year, the Retirement Fund stopped his pension checks in relation to the double-dipping law. Babauta, according to board members,

did not receive his pension four months prior to the execution of his contract in July this year.

Sources told *Saipan Tribune* that Babauta appealed the Fund's decision when it stopped his pension. Babauta reportedly lost in the administrative hearing. The Fund, as of press time, has yet to provide any information about Babauta's transaction with the agency after its man-

agement asked for an extension on the Open Government Act request filed by *Saipan Tribune*.

For Torres and Dela Cruz, the \$96,000 salary for Babauta is "fair and reasonable" considering the tasks and responsibilities of the position. In comparing the CEO's salary to other heads and directors of autonomous agencies and departments, they said the amount is

still "within range."

It was in October 2011 when the corporation formally took over the management of the then Department of Public Health, pursuant to Public Law 16-51. During the corporation's first board meeting, members endorsed Babauta's appointment as CEO of the organization and recommended a \$120,000 annual compensation. This contract did not take effect following Babauta's decision not to give up his retirement pension.

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CCA lines up October partnership events

The Commonwealth Cancer Association, in partnership with the CHC Non-Communicable Disease Bureau, Get Fit CNMI, LLC, KKMP, and the Hard Rock Café Saipan announce a series of events celebrat-

ing October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Over five bands, raffles, auctions, and a slide show will highlight the annual signature event of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Pinktober is

scheduled for the evening of Oct. 26, 2012, at the Hard Rock Café. Tickets for the event are \$11.

The month's activities will continue with a roadside waving and pink ribbon distribution on Friday, Oct. 19, at 4pm at the Microl Intersection, and on Wednesday, Oct. 24, at 4pm at the Bank of Guam – Hard Rock Café

Intersection.

Get Fit CNMI, LLC will be hosting a fundraiser on Oct. 27 at 10am in Chalan Kiya, to support CCA's client assistance program.

The CHC Non-Communicable Disease Bureau will be hosting, "The Breast Cancer Screening Health Conversation," a gathering of health pro-

fessionals, cancer awareness organizations and interested individuals on Oct. 30, from 5pm to 9pm at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

For more information on these events, and for ticket information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or by email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. **(CCA)**

ANOTHER

From Page 1

renewable energy and lowering CUC [Commonwealth Utilities Corp.] utility rates," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Senate president said Fitial "has to realize that what he did was wrong and illegal because the law requires a contract such as this to be sanctioned by the Public Utilities Commission and the sole-source contract requires the certification of the justification."

Not over yet

House minority leader Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), main author of the impeachment measure, said it will be up to voters to decide on Nov. 6 whether Wednesday night's vote on House Resolution 17-111 is the end of the process.

It has been whispered about that once the so-called independent Republicans and members of the current House minority bloc, Covenant Party candidates, and other independents gain majority in the 18th Legislature, they will again introduce a resolution impeaching the governor.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday "it's just sad that way ahead of the election, these proponents are already planning to divide our community once again."

"Right now, the governor's focus is on trying to get the elected leaders to work together for the betterment of the people. They appear to have all the answers, but never want to share what those solutions are. It's time to just put it all behind and give the people the service they deserve," he said.

Glen Hunter, a concerned citizen and one of the organizers of an Oct.

21 rally against corruption, said it's his "honest assessment that the impeachment vote [on Wednesday] night was a necessary step toward an impeachment in January."

"I was fully aware that certain members of the Legislature were not going to be swayed and that the resolution would never garner the numbers in this House. However, it was paramount that the public got to see the vote of all sitting representatives prior to Nov. 6. It was, as the governor put it, political suicide, for them to cast a 'no' vote," he said.

Hunter said "no longer can any of them walk the line between what is right and what is wrong. They voted [Wednesday] night on that very issue. Those who voted 'no' clearly showed the entire CNMI that they were fully willing to turn a blind eye to blatant documented proof of corruption, abuse

of power, and neglect of duty by the governor. It was a sad day for those 10 representatives but a great day for the CNMI."

Human rights activist Wendy Dormal said, "No honest legislator could review the evidence of the hearings, listen to the testimonies, and conclude that the governor should not be impeached."

"Clearly, those who vote no to impeachment are loyal to Fitial rather than to the people that they were elected to serve. Those who vote no will likely receive a no vote for their re-election in November," the former Rota teacher added.

'Blame'

House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), one of those who voted "no" to the impeachment resolution, said the House leadership "will continue to push to revive and sustain the Retirement Fund and seek out revenue

to help our economy."

Rep. Joe Palacios (R-Saipan), who also voted against the impeachment, said all the things that the pro-impeachment lawmakers raised "could have been addressed had they worked with the governor and the leadership."

"Now they are blaming one person, the governor, for all the problems like the hospital, the Retirement Fund. I would like to put the blame on all of us lawmakers because we all didn't work together... We all failed. Basically Rep. Froilan Tenorio is right when he said a do-nothing Legislature. But it's not too late to do something starting with working together," Palacios said.

Deleon Guerrero said had the House leadership allowed evidence on each of the articles to be presented to each of the members, they would find that at least 15 of 16 allegations rise to the level of impeachment.

FITIAL

From Page 1

moro and Nekaifes, specifically the phone calls made and received between the night of Aug. 3 and early morning of Aug. 4.

Minority bloc members led by Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) said the phone calls are just among the evidence

pointing to Fitial's knowledge of and active participation in the shielding of serving of a penal summons on Buckingham and the use of law enforcement officers and other government resources to do so.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday "there is no evidence to suggest what was actually being discussed or who were on the phone."

"We can't rely on speculation. It's

time to move on," Demapan added.

On the evening of Aug. 3, Fitial and Nekaifes spoke on the phone at 7:38pm, 8:43pm, 9pm, and 9:25pm.

Deleon Guerrero said the Aug. 3 night phone calls could be "circumstantial" but making phone calls during wee hours of the morning, just like on Aug. 4 when Buckingham was escorted by police officers such as Ogumoro and Nekaifes, were "very suspicious."

TIGHE

From Page 1

tem, environment, economy, health-care, education, utilities, and a host of other issues, and has appeared locally in one form or another, including in the *Saipan Tribune* a few years back.

"I not only lost a friend but the Commonwealth also lost a very valuable person. She cared for the Commonwealth," said another of Tighe's friends, Gloria W. Hunter.

Hunter said Tighe was a "very outspoken" person. She said even though she and Tighe wouldn't agree on most issues, "her heart was in the right place. She had good intentions."

Wheeling an oxygen tank wherever she went since 2009, Tighe never wavered in her resolve to speak up on issues important to the CNMI and its people. She attended public hearings on issues such as the NMI Retirement Fund, high utility rates, environmental woes, economic initiatives, education, healthcare, to name a few.

"I learned a lot from her. I will miss her. She's the only person I know who reads the *Commonwealth Register*. She was dragging her oxygen tank to public hearings. Very courageous woman," Hunter said.

Hunter said she last spoke to Tighe on Friday, when the latter was working on her "On My Mind" column.

Second chance

Hunter said in 2009, the doctors gave Tighe three to six months to live. She lived for another three years.

"She's surprised and happy about that. She believed in the power of prayers. She's active, always on the go

and I think all those helped her live for three years more," Hunter added.

In January 2010, the 16th Legislature adopted resolutions commending Tighe for her outstanding contributions to the CNMI.

"[I'm] humbled and greatly honored," Tighe told *Saipan Tribune* after she accepted a copy of House Resolution 16-104 on Capital Hill two years ago.

Bud White said he had known Tighe for more than 30 years, starting when she worked at the CNMI Energy Division with Juan Camacho. White's family lives two houses away from Tighe in Tanapag.

"She liked to walk in Marpi... And we walked together for years. She's a dear friend. So many people look forward to reading her column, On My Mind. She lived a good, full life," he said.

White said had Tighe been feeling well on Wednesday night, she could have also gone to Capital Hill for the historic vote on an impeachment resolution.

"She would have liked to go there, and ask questions or make comments. I know she's upset the governor signed a contract for a diesel power generator for 25 years. She said there's no reason why they would still be using diesel 20 to 25 years from now. She felt strongly about that issue," White added.

'Citizen extraordinaire'

White and his wife Donna said Tighe died peacefully.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) said he was glad to hear that Tighe passed peacefully "but her passing is a loss."

"I will miss her 'On My Mind' newsletters. I will miss her opinions and in-

sights. I will miss Ruth Tighe, who was always a good friend and a citizen extraordinaire," Sablan said.

Tighe was brought to CHC on Tuesday morning. The White couple said they were at the hospital from around 6pm to 8:30pm Wednesday night to be with their friend.

When they got back to their home in Tanapag, the hospital called to tell them she passed away. That was about 8:45pm, Bud White said.

"On Wednesday, she asked that we bring Scotch. So I brought her Johnnie Walker Black Label Scotch. People at CHC were wonderful. Alcohol isn't allowed at the hospital but they said that's what Ruth wants and she might not live through the night. She could have gone back home, with a mask on (to help her breath). But she asked the doctor if the doctor could do it, unplug it, and the doctor said, 'Ruth you know I couldn't do that'. And Ruth said it won't hurt to ask. At quarter to 9, her heart stopped beating. She lived a good, full life," Bud White said.

The CNMI's delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives said Tighe often made requests of her congressional office "but she never asked for herself."

"Ruth always wanted something that would be good for all our community. Just last Monday, she spoke with me about the lack of public access to the latest environmental study of the military buildup. So we got the study on a CD for her and took it to her home. 'What about everyone else, who might want to see this?' Ruth asked. 'You've got to put it on your website, so everyone can read it,'" Sablan said.

Sablan said "Ruth was right; and she would be unhappy if we didn't pub-

lish the address: <http://sablan.house.gov/press-release/integrated-natural-resources-management-plan-join-region-marianas>."

"Because Ruth believed that everyone should take a serious interest in the welfare of their community, that we should educate ourselves, and definitely speak our minds," Sablan said.

The CNMI Legislature and the U.S. House of Representatives, through Sablan, recognized Tighe for her many outstanding contributions in building the literary wealth of the CNMI, raising the civic consciousness of the community, and offering present and future generations a model of excellence in public service and active citizenship.

"Members of the House recognize and commend the extraordinary accomplishments of Ms. Ruth L. Tighe as a professional librarian, writer, educator, and citizen of the Northern Mariana Islands," a 2010 CNMI resolution partly reads.

Tighe was born in Wurzburg, Germany on July 9, 1931. She later immigrated with her family to the United States in 1934. She has five children and three grandchildren.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the State University of New York, and her Master of Library Science from Columbia University in New York City.

Tighe first came to Micronesia in the late 1970s from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science to assist Guam, the CNMI, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific in preparing for the first ever White House Conference on Libraries held in Washington, D.C. in 1979.

She returned to Saipan in December 1980 to serve as a consultant to the Li-

airport's VIP lounge.

Phone calls to Fitial were again made by DPS officers at 5:23am and 6:29am.

Deleon Guerrero said one could only conclude "they were reporting to the governor."

The airport escort of Buckingham was among the 16 allegations of felony, corruption, and neglect of duty against the governor in the defeated impeachment resolution.

Library Services section of the Department of Education. After several years with the Department of Education/Public School System, Tighe worked for Northern Marianas College, where she established its library.

Because of Tighe's adaptability, intellectual curiosity, and exceptional writing and research skills, her long career includes assisting the Coastal Resources Management, the Division of Environmental Quality, and the Division of Energy in the development of their printed materials. She also reported for *Marianas Variety*, and also served as editor and chief reporter of the *Marianas Review*.

Tighe also served as public information officer for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and as legal researcher for Eason & Halsell before retiring.

Throughout the years, she was involved in the activities of organizations such as Beautify CNMI!, Friends of the Monument, Commonwealth Retirees Association, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, and the Friends of the Arts.

Community members have also been paying tribute to Tighe on social media, Facebook.

"So sad. Just found out that Ruth Tighe passed away. I will truly miss her columns and her feisty character. She is someone who didn't sugarcoat anything. She said it as she saw it, and was refreshingly honest with her opinions. I think we need more of that in our islands," one said.

Another said, "My God... the clear-thinking conscience of the CNMI. I will miss her weekly newsletters terribly... A wonderful woman who cared much for her community."

"A real loss. Her columns were needed common sense," another said.

OF 1,713 FILED APPLICATIONS**Fund so far OKs 101 refunds; no check disbursement yet**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund has so far approved 101 applications of members who want to withdraw their contributions from the pension program, a small fraction of the 1,713 refund applications it received.

The agency began receiving refund applications on Sept. 17 following the enactment of Public Law 17-82, which allowed members to withdraw the full amount of their contributions without separating from the government.

This new law mandates the Fund to pay out 25 percent of a member's contributions plus interest within 30 days after a member submits an application. The remaining 75 percent will be paid out within 90 days.

It also allows employees to roll over their defined benefit plan contributions into the defined contribution plan and become a member of that program.

Based on the Retirement Fund website, 101 applications for withdrawal have been marked "approved" by the Fund administrator as of Oct. 11. However, no check has been disbursed yet.

In a 35-page document posted on the agency's website, a total of 1,713 refund applications were marked "filed" since Sept. 17. A total of 39 applications were marked either "void" or "cancelled." Fund officials earlier said there is no deadline to file refund applications.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain information from Fund acting administrator Lillian

Pangelinan on the target check disbursement but failed. Email inquiries and calls were not returned as of press time.

Some members who have been waiting for the release of their money are worried about a potential delay in the disbursement of checks. Last Oct. 17 was the 30th day after the filing of the first applications.

"Although they assured us that there is money set aside for [withdrawals], we're still worried [about] the possibility that we will not receive our monies as we expect them. It's been a month now and only more than a hundred [applications] have been reviewed and approved," complained a Fund member who

was among the first group of people who filed refund applications on the first day.

Fund officials and representatives earlier said that payment for the refunds will come

from the \$113 million that the court set aside for active members of the Fund.



November 6
✓ PLEASE VOTE

#6 Mariano DE LEON GUERRERO FAJARDO

Independent

for
House of Representatives (Precinct 3)

"EVERYONE MATTERS!"

Bench warrant out vs 7 prospective jurors who failed to appear in court

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has issued a \$1,000 bench warrant each for the arrest of seven prospective jurors who failed to show up at a jury trial on Monday.

Camacho later quashed the bench warrant against three, leaving the warrant against four persons still outstanding as of yesterday.

The judge quashed the warrant against the three after finding their excuses reasonable. One appeared late on Monday, the other on Wednesday, the third came yesterday.

Saipan Tribune learned that the court summoned 205 prospective jurors for the jury selection on Monday in the case against

62-year-old Jose Ilo Santos.

Sixty-eight summons were served and 137 were not able to come—either they are off-island or were not located.

Of the 68 served, 58 appeared in court. Of the 10 who failed to come, three later showed up and were subsequently excused. The judge then issued bench warrants against the remaining seven.

The four who still have outstanding bench warrant may be held in contempt if they could not give reasonable reasons.

Camacho is said to be the first Superior Court judge to issue bench warrants against prospective jurors who fail to appear in court. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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G GAP fundraiser takes in \$3.75K for Japan tsunami relief

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

G GAP raised a total of \$3,750

in their third fundraising show on Saipan to help relief efforts in Japan following the devastating earthquake and

tsunami in 2011.

The Japanese country music group held a one-night show at Country House Restaurant,

which organized the event last Oct. 5.

Audiences listened to the group perform while enjoying a



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

G GAP entertains the crowd with country music during their fundraising show at the Country House Restaurant last Oct. 5 for the benefit of relief efforts in Japan.

\$35 sirloin steak dinner set with a glass of wine for \$35 for the first set, and the \$25 entrance, inclusive of two drinks, for the second set.

G GAP also went on stage amid heavy rains last Oct. 6 for the 24th Annual Club 200 of the American Red Cross held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

Kay Irinaka, Country House general administrator, said in an interview yesterday that restaurant president Masanobu Sago will fly next week to Sendai, capital city of Miyagi Prefecture, which was heavily damaged by the March 11, 2011 catastrophe in Japan, to hand-deliver the \$3,750 raised during the G GAP show early this month.

"The group is very dedicated to help their countrymen and they really appreciate Saipan for supporting their efforts to assist the Japanese community," she said.

Irinaka said this is the third time that G GAP held a fundraising event for the same cause,

and all members of the group feel at home every time they come back to the island.

"They will never forget the experience they had in their shows on Saipan, including the Club 200 event. They really appreciate that the people of Saipan welcome and accept them," she added.

Irinaka acknowledged the generosity of the major sponsors for the G GAP show, namely Delta Air Lines which donated airline tickets for the group, Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods, and Pacific Trading Co.

Formed in 2000, G GAP first performed live for the silver anniversary of Country House in Tokyo, which is a different establishment from the restaurant on Saipan. The group plays English '80s and '90s rock music and is composed of Ryuji Hirao, guitar and vocals; Naomi Amemiya, electronic guitar and vocals; Yuichiro Nagasaka, bass and vocals; Keigo Nakajima, drums and vocals; and Yasuharu Muranaka, pedal steel guitar.

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Manta Ray lends a helping hand with food drive

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Karidat Social Services will be able to help feed families this Thanksgiving after the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion turned over the food items they collected in their annual food drive.

Karidat executive director Angie V. Guerrero and administrative officer Judy Pangelinan received the donation in a ceremony held at the Koblerville campus yesterday morning.

Sgt. Maj. Joaquin Kiyoshi said the Manta Ray Battalion has been conducting the Thanksgiving food drive since 2003.

"We explain to them that this canned food drive is for those people in need during Thanksgiving, to help some families make their Thanksgiving special. I like to really thank the cadets for all their hard work. It's not for us; we're here to help the community," he said.

For this year, the 130-member battalion was divided into five groups in a race to collect the most number of food items. The 12 cadets of Delta Company emerged the winner. Various stores helped their cause, including the Hannam Market, Oleai Store, and several mom and pop stores. The biggest contribution came from the Joeten Stores, which donated



Members of the Saipan Southern High School Manta Ray Battalion led by Sgt. Maj. Joaquin Kiyoshi and principal Jesse Tudela pose with Karidat executive director Angie V. Guerrero and administrative officer Judy Pangelinan before handing the collected food items for the battalion's annual Thanksgiving food drive during a brief presentation ceremony yesterday morning.

five sacks of rice, boxes of Ritz snacks, soba, cake mix, coffee, and many others.

"For me, it feels good to be helping people who are in need. A real motivation to this was the quote from Mother Teresa, who said that it's better to give than to receive because you

have happiness in your heart," said Delta Company's Sgt. Maj. Donna Pascual.

Saipan Southern High School principal Jesse Tudela said the annual food drive is a collective effort of the Manta Ray Battalion and members of the public to give back to

the community.

"I'm proud of their endeavor because it is making a difference in the community. We want to teach the students to also be part of the community and this is one way they can," he added.

Karidat's Guerrero commended the battalion's efforts to coordinate the food drive annually.

"I admire their spirit of giving and caring for other people who are less fortunate," she told *Saipan Tribune*. "It's an indication that we still have some more values in our community despite all the things that are negative in our community—all the vandalism, burglaries, corruption. I have hope that the students will be able to carry on the spirit of giving and caring in the community."

Thursday's donation, Guerrero said, would fill up their pantry, which is currently empty as they have not received their emergency food and shelter grant to date.

"We're helping a lot now, with the economy being so bad, businesses closing down, food stamps being reduced. All those affect us and so many people are coming to us for some assistance," she added.

Guerrero emphasized that any form of donation is welcome at Karidat, be it food items, money, household stuff, or used clothing, and she thanked all their donors and sponsors for their generosity in these hard times.

"It's for people caring for other people. That makes us happy, too, that people are appreciating what other people are giving," she said.

To donate or for more information, call Karidat at 234-5248 or 6981.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 19, 1999

Reject legislative initiative—Faisao

A legislator yesterday urged voters not to support a legislative initiative seeking to amend the CNMI Constitution to create separate finance offices for each branch of the government, saying the proposal will add another layer to bureaucracy that will burden taxpayers. Rep. Melvin Faisao had opposed the initiative when it was tackled by the House of Representatives early this year, but it got enough votes from members to be included in the balloting for the Nov. 6 midterm elections. Senate Legislative Initiative 11-4 aims to change a constitutional provision to create a respective finance office within the Legislative Bureau as well as the Judicial Branch to control and regulate the expenditures of public funds appropriated to each branch.

CNMI youths to attend Young People's Congress in Hawaii

An international youth Congress focusing on global sustainability, human rights, and peace will bring together young people from all over the world in Honolulu, Hawaii on Thursday, Oct. 21. Nearly 1,000 young people from more than 100 countries, including the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, are to attend a five-day conference to assess Agenda 21 issues and set new priorities and targets for the new millennium. There will also be activities days before and after the conference. The process of selecting representatives to attend the Congress included appointment of national coordinators from each country. National consultation meetings were then held to agree on priorities and to elect two representatives (under age 18) to carry these priorities to Hawaii.

Oct. 19, 2000

Teno intervenes in DEQ, AGO feud

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has taken steps to patch up differences between Assistant Attorney General Murphy Peterson and the Division of Environmental Quality that erupted over handling of the issues surrounding the polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in Tanapag. He said he wants the disputes resolved in order not to jeopardize the CNMI government's efforts to address the health and safety concerns of the community. "I firmly believe that all the agencies should work together and see what we can do to resolve this issue," Mr. Tenorio said in an interview yesterday. "My major concern is that I want to make sure that the health and safety of our community and other areas are protected," he added.

Govt asked to locate funds to build Center for Women

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has been asked to facilitate efforts to identify funding that would pave the way for the construction of the proposed center for women, a project that was conceived several years back. Rep. William S. Torres said the proposed center, which was brought up in 1995 during the leadership of former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, will house the Women's Affairs Office, a resource facility, a cafeteria and a day care center. The center was envisioned to be a place where women in the CNMI would find not only solace but the inspiration to achieve economic well-being and empowerment and productive networking, said Mr. Torres.

Oct. 19, 2001

EPA OK's proposed PCB remedy

The US Environmental Protection Agency has approved, on a conditional basis, the US Army Corps of Engineers' proposed treatment of PCB-laced soil in Tanapag. The Army Corps has suggested the on-site treatment of PCB-contaminated soil by means of Indirect Thermal Desorption, and that the contaminated residuals be disposed off-island afterwards. EPA made the announcement Wednesday, after reviewing the Army Corps' recommendations based on a report compiled from the 30-day public commentary period back in July.

Fitial eyes better retirement program

As he had announced in the gubernatorial debate last October 1, House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial is pursuing plans for the establishment of an alternative retirement program that provides for a more equitable pension system and greater social security while helping increase real income for participants. "We're looking at various models, including the 401K program. But, of course, like other programs, this will entail more in-depth studies to see which system would best suit us here in the Northern Marianas," said Fitial. The Speaker said he is exploring a new system due to the perceived inequity under the current two-class system administered by the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund.

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'Improved enforcement needed to protect Monument resources'

»Recent report highlights federal failure to police Pacific Monuments

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) called yesterday for Congress and federal agencies to dedicate more attention and resources to curtailing illegal activity in U.S. Pacific waters.

"Our inability to combat illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing is having a dramatic effect on the health of Pacific marine ecosystems and the island economies that depend on them," said Sablan, the top Democrat on the House Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs Subcommittee. "We don't even have a way to know who is in our exclusive economic zones, much less a way to do anything about it."

Sablan's comments came in

the wake of a report by the Marine Conservation Institute that highlights the inability of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to adequately enforce federal law within the boundaries of the Marianas Trench, Pacific Remote Islands, Rose Atoll, and Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Monuments.

"These monuments are critical elements of our natural and cultural heritage, not to mention major drivers of our economy," Sablan said. "We cannot afford to allow illegal, unregulated,



Sablan

and unreported activities to continue in these protected areas."

So-called I.U.U. fishing is big business, bringing in an estimated \$10 billion annually

worldwide, and undermining domestic fishermen who play by the rules.

This is not the first time Sablan has shined a light on the enforcement problem. At a Subcommittee hearing in July he pointed out that part of the problem is that NOAA and the Coast Guard have been short-changed on the physical and financial resources needed to

patrol Pacific waters.

The combined area of exclusive economic zone waters of the U.S. Pacific islands, including the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and Hawaii exceeds 1.5 million square miles, roughly half the size of the lower 48 states.

One solution, Sablan suggested, would be to refit vessels seized by the United States for use by federal law enforcement.

But he pointed out that the current federal commitment to law enforcement simply does not match the size of the re-

gion or the complexity of the issues facing it.

"We in Congress need to step up with additional funding," Sablan said. "And the responsible agencies need to do more to work collaboratively to maximize the effectiveness of the resources that Congress provides."

The Marine Conservation Institute reports that agencies do not have coordinated plans for preventing and responding to oil spills, ship groundings, and trespassing that can damage sensitive coral reefs and other valuable resources.

Sablan is also working to provide the agencies with better

legal weapons to combat I.U.U. fishing. The delegate is an original co-sponsor of H.R. 4100, the Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing Enforcement Act, which has been discharged from his Subcommittee.

"We will certainly continue to push the House Natural Resources Committee to report this bill and the House leadership to bring it to the floor for a vote," Sablan said.

Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI) has introduced companion legislation in the U.S. Senate. That bill, S. 52, also awaits legislative action, when Congress goes back to work in November. *(Office of the Delegate)*

CRM launches Adopt-a-Beach program anew

The Coastal Resource Management Office relaunched yesterday its Adopt-A-Beach program for all residents, businesses, and organizations. CRM is looking for groups to sign on and commit to cleaning a beach of their liking four times a year. CRM will help with the first cleanup, giving the group information about what they find on the beach and the potential hazards it has on the environment. CRM will also provide the supplies and trash removal for the initial cleanup.

Besides becoming a steward for the environment and community, you will also be


receiving the recognition you deserve. CRM will post a picture from your first cleanup on their website and all Adopt-A-Beach participants will be recognized during Environmental Awareness Month in April and Coastal Month in September. Every volunteer in your group who has participated in at least two cleanups will receive a water bottle while those who complete three cleanups will receive a T-shirt.

"Beach cleanups are a great way to bring awareness to communities and residents. We have to remember that trash is a result

of human behavior. Litter anywhere on the island will eventually find its way to the reef," said CRM administrator Rita Chong-Dela Cruz. "We can catch some of that before it hits the water by performing beach cleanups, but the best thing to do is make sure our trash finds its way into the appropriate receptacles and not the ground."

Let us know what your favorite beach is and sign up to be an Adopt-A-Beach participant!

If interested in adopting a beach contact CRM at 670-664-8300 or stop by the office. *(Office of the Governor)*



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Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

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EDITORIAL

Obama bounces back in Round 2

President Obama bounced back in Tuesday's presidential debate with a focused and forceful presentation nothing like his neurasthenic performance in his first encounter with Mitt Romney. That's obviously a relief for Obama partisans, but the president's articulate defense of his own policies and his detailed dissection of his opponent's also served the electorate in general by bringing sharply into focus the fundamental differences between the candidates.

Obama was most effective in a task that he fumbled badly in the first debate: challenging the Republican candidate's insistence that he can achieve across-the-board cuts in tax rates without aggravating the federal deficit or depriving middle-income Americans of tax breaks they have come to rely on. Romney insisted that under his (still sketchy) plan, wealthy taxpayers would continue to pay as much as they do now because he will close loopholes, and that middle-income taxpayers would still have access to a generous basket of deductions.

But Obama, noting that Romney favors defense spending that the military doesn't even want as well as a continuation of tax cuts for the wealthy, did not yield the point. "The math doesn't add up," he said. Until Romney provides more details, that indictment stands. (Obama was less forthcoming about how he would reduce deficits without further taxing the middle class.)

Obama disputed Romney's recent move to the center on immigration and defended his own commitment to the development of alternative energy sources (without, however, even mentioning climate change). He offered a muscular defense of government intervention in the economy, even as he rhapsodized about the virtues of the free market. And, yes, he finally reminded the audience of Romney's closed-door dismissal of the supposedly unself-reliant 47 percent.

A question about the deadly attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, prompted Romney to recycle the accusation that the Obama administration deliberately misled the nation about the nature of the attack and whether it had been an organized act of terrorism. An indignant Obama shamed Romney for suggesting that he would play politics or prevaricate about such a tragic event. Romney's related argument that the attack was a metaphor for a failed foreign policy was so obviously opportunistic that no reply was necessary.

Despite the president's rebound, Romney ably reiterated his strongest argument: that Obama's promises—of deficit reduction, entitlement reform, robust job growth and immigration legislation—have not come to pass. Romney said reelecting Obama would mean more of the same.

That argument still poses a threat to Obama's reelection. But the president is back in the game, defending his accomplishments and homing in on the damage he says his opponent's policies could cause to women, the poor and a struggling middle class.

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A bold but feasible vision for Saipan

As I am planning to visit my parents on Saipan next month and am still struggling to get an air ticket from Tokyo to Saipan for below one thousand U.S. dollars for a three-and-a-half-hour flight, I went back to analyze the CNMI's decline. From my childhood days I remember Saipan as a buzzing tourist destination with loads of Japanese and other Asian tourists arriving on affordable charter flights, filling huge hotels like the recently closed Palms Resort (the old Nikko). I do not want discuss what went wrong and this is not the right place to provide a full strategy report, but as a strategic foresight analyst and consultant I would like to share some of my bold but feasible visions for Saipan with you.

First of all there is the energy challenge that already negatively affects the CNMI's economy and quality of life for quite some time. Luckily, however, Saipan's natural environment provides abundant resources that may even be enough to someday achieve full energy self-sufficiency for Saipan's approximately 48,220 inhabitants. From the perspective of resources, Saipan could become a forerunner in renewable energy concepts by making use of the islands' abundant sun, wind, waves, geothermal sources, currents, biomass (especially coconuts). By the way, you can do a whole lot more with coconuts, which seem to be abundant on Saipan) as well the small village-structure, which is very suitable for decentralized energy concepts.

The small tropical island of Tokelau has recently become the first energy self-sufficient nation relying on solar energy and coconut material. True, Tokelau is just a small island with only 1,400 inhabitants, but even Germany with its 81.8 million inhabitants has set the ambitious goal that by 2020 35 percent of the country's electricity consumption should come from renewable sources. And due to its smaller size and more decentralized structure, it is likely that the grid issue is easier to solve on Saipan than in Germany.

Now you may raise the question about financing such projects. True, you need to invest to kick-start it. But why not assess partnerships with research institutions and industrial R&D in East Asia and Southeast Asia and give researchers and engineers the opportunity to develop and test new ideas in a small real-life environment and contribute to solving global challenges and help the island at the same time? In the long run, such investments will definitely be worth their money. The same can apply to cheaper desalination and water treatment technologies.

Saipan could become the birthplace for cutting edge energy, water, and agricultural solutions that bring global benefits. Apropos agriculture: When I last visited a supermarket on Saipan, I was really surprised at the large amounts of imported foods products, including bananas from the Philippines and other imported tropical produce. Why can't Saipan aim for food self-sufficiency like the island of Vanuatu did? Saipan has fertile soil, large amounts of arable lands, and a suitable climate for agriculture. What is needed is a systematic approach, management capabilities, and most importantly an inherent drive of people to want to make a difference.

In many developed countries, SPIN farming and growing one's

By **DR. MIRIAM J.S. LEIS**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

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own food is gaining popularity. Yes, there are technical and financial challenges to achieving energy and food self-sufficiency, but solving them brings about innovation and progress in knowledge and technology that can even be valuable to solve global challenges of energy, clean water, and food scarcity.

Saipan does not only have biological diversity but also cultural diversity. Instead of tightening the labor and investment opportunities for foreigners, dramatically increasing the flight ticket prices to Saipan and closing down hotels and commercial centers, Saipan should welcome skilled workers and professionals from abroad, tourists, and cultural diversity. The islands' close relationship with Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Taiwanese, American, Russian, European, and indigenous and Pacific islanders cultures should be really seen as a treasure and should be fostered and marketed as a tourist attraction. Look at Malaysia, for example, where cultural diversity is core to the country's tourism marketing concept. Economically and scientifically, the exchange between different countries and cultures has been beneficial in many cases. Look at small successful and innovative countries like Singapore or Luxemburg that more than welcome skilled and educated immigrant employees.

Saipan should strive to become a place that attracts investors, tourists, skilled workers, professionals, researchers, and innovators who will contribute to prosperity, well-being, and innovation. But you cannot attract tourists and commercial firms with high energy prices, insanely expensive flight tickets, growing concerns over food and water security, nonexistent cultural attractions, insufficient healthcare facilities, and closing businesses. However, you can kick-start it yourself if you have a vision, drive, and willpower and be inspirational and pave the way for innovators, researchers, planners, and doers who are willing to take up the challenge to help realize the vision for Saipan.

Saipan seems to be blessed with resources to realize the visions many other nations are dreaming of: resources for clean energy, fertile ground for food self-sufficiency, a manageable population size,

See A BOLD on next page

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Haunted houses, haunted tales

It's ghost story time. So pull up a beach chair. Throw some wood on the campfire. You'll catch a brief glimmer of my face from the flare of a lighted match. Then I'll stoke a briar pipe. I'll draw on the pipe thoughtfully, nod to myself in quiet satisfaction, and tell these tales.

The first story comes from a retired pilot. When he was in the Air Force he was stationed at Edwards Air Force Base. Edwards is situated in California's Mojave Desert. The area has a lot of Old West history dating back to gold rush days. It still has active mines and even a few hardy prospectors who work hard-rock claims. The nooks and crannies of that area have a lot of secrets.

One late afternoon, as the sun was just sinking over the western mountains and dusk was settling over the lonely desert, the pilot was driving along a remote stretch of the base perimeter. He got out of his vehicle to take a look at something mundane, maybe it was a guard shed, or a fence, I don't remember what it was. Anyway, while he was out of his car he decided to take in the view and enjoy a smoke.

"When I shifted my focus from far-off terrain to nearby," said the pilot, "I noticed a guy standing about 15 feet in front of me. He had appeared out of nowhere."

The pilot described the guy. "He looked like an old miner, dressed in 1920s garb, and wearing a hat. He was facing me, looking right at me. He didn't say anything. He didn't move much, if at all. He seemed to be wondering what the heck I was doing there. Well, you can be sure I had the same wonders about him."

And then, after a very long 15 seconds of standing there, the guy simply vanished. End of story.

The second story comes from a family friend. She was a penni-

less graduate student, the only child of a lonely, bitter old lady. The old lady spent her days as a sharp-tongued busybody and invested her nights alone drinking gin. Whether it was age or booze that finally took her was never quite clear, but, either way, she died in her house.

The student was none too rich, so out of necessity she moved into her inherited house. Shortly thereafter, we'd get hysterical calls in the middle of the night. She said the place was haunted.

Doors would slam on their own, she told us. Items on shelves and tables would spontaneously fall off. I was familiar with such goings-on from scary movies, but not from first-person accounts.

The student sold the house for a pittance just to get away from it. Sadly, this was pretty much the last streak of bad luck she could endure. She drifted away to points distant. That's the last anyone heard from her.

A few years later, when I lived in a rural area, the local ghost expert (every small town has one) told me that hauntings by lonely and meddlesome people were common. She said these people can't peacefully move along when the time comes. I'm not savvy in such matters, but perhaps if someone rejects peace in their own life and denies it to others, too, then eternity itself answers in kind.

My third story is straight out of the cliché catalog. Maybe we should cue some spooky organ music for full effect. After all, this tale is from a friend who is a classical musician.

Earlier this year his work took him to the eastern U.S. It was an enclave of old money, tweed jackets, and family legends. He stayed in an old country house that was said to be haunted.

The musician says he was sitting in the living room late one night. He was alone in the house, relaxing and enjoying the quiet.

House annihilates justice

The House Republican majority defeated the impeachment resolution by a vote 9-10 Wednesday evening. The debate focused on the rights of the governed to insist on a process that would strengthen local democratic institutions versus the vicious saving of the career of a politician.

When it came down to it, it was basically a show of power and what the powerful majority could render, rightly or wrongly, to quash consideration of the impeachment process.

It's a clear denial of a democratic process upon which "the governed" could strengthen the institution of a government of laws. It wasn't to be and we will never get there what with Republicans annihilating a democratic exercise before it begins.

Granted that no matter the vicious politics on this issue, it doesn't change the fact that the accused is still entitled to due process rights including a fair trial by the Senate. But this is all academic now after last Wednesday evening.

The head of the special committee, Rep. Joseph P. DeLeon Guerrero, brought into focus what consumers would be saddled with under the PPA contract of some \$2.3 billion. He pointed out that when greater hardship begins to hound consumers, most would "remember this session."

Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogomoro, however, pointed out that the governor signed the \$190-million contract after receiving a memo from the acting executive director Alan Fletcher about its advantages. She claims there's no clear statement from Fletcher saying otherwise.

DeLeon Guerrero did a superb job navigating the treacherous sea of politics and stuck to his guns in sober fashion, keeping the conduct of the investigation strictly on what's at issue. He noted the establishment of a certain pattern in the conduct of business by the governor that warrant probing issues to the hilt that include sole source contracts, to the role of DPS ascertaining that the former AG is served the penal summons.

I admire the sturdy job of the chair of the special committee who employed principle by being principled. He demonstrated detachment in the hearings he held in the last three weeks. How sad, though, that politics annihilated the democratic process.

But there's one issue the House leadership must have failed to recognize, which is the conflicted position of the Senate on this matter. Its resolution supporting the Maratita/Yumul lawsuit brings into focus whether it could deliver justice against the accused given

its incendiary position. This in itself could result in a procedurally protracted wrangling among legal eagles, knowing that the Senate has compromised its integrity. It would have to be complete recusal from the outset.

A bit sad that journey to justice was trumped in favor of politics. It goes to illustrate the obvious lack of the political maturation process after 34 years of self-government.

The \$2.25 billion power plant

Wallon Young, power plant manager, said before the special committee on impeachment that the newly signed diesel power plant package would cost about \$2.25 billion. The total debt is spread out over a 25-year period.

Young also said the power rate of 18 cents per kilowatt-hour under the new deal is impossible to attain even with the "most efficient diesel engines." Furthermore, the \$190-million contract signed between the governor and Saipan Development LLC basically privatizes the utility agency.

In other words, when the CNMI fails to meet its debt payment, the company can confiscate everything that belongs to CUC until our monthly obligation is met. The contract grants the company the ability to dispose of CUC properties to collect its money.

These revelations are definitely significant and should have been handled with greater transparency. In short, that it would involve passing the \$2.25 billion debt to consumers makes it mandatory that the deal should have been announced via the regular procurement procedure. The NMI must benefit from the best offer.

It's equally unsettling the amount the NMI must pay per year of some \$7.6 million. Can it pay its commitment under the contract when it can't even pay its debts to CUC to the tune of \$10.6 million? Isn't the delinquency prompted by the significant decline in revenues and therefore must juggle revenue collection to fund such obligations as CHC's and others? Haven't we been watching our financial radar lately?

Now, the \$2.25 billion power plant is difficult to chew for obvious reasons. It translates into some \$40K in additional taxes for every child, woman, and man for 25 years on top of current taxes. This doesn't include the planned pension obligation bond of about \$300 million to pay off the unfunded liability owed the Fund by the local government. It also doesn't include the persistent deficit spending that is incurred daily. A significant decline in revenues warrants tak-

gricultural technologies could meet with sustainable and ecological living. But first you need to pull yourself up and then spread this enthusiasm to researchers, innovators, and investors around you to accelerate innovation and creativity and finally attract tourists and spectators who want to learn from the role model of Saipan.

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.



The quiet remained, but the relaxing didn't: The musician saw a woman in a white dress walk through the room, almost gliding, he said, since the old wooden floor gave up no creaks. The woman walked at a fairly slow pace, giving him time to get a good look at her. He said she exactly matched the description of the house's legendary ghost.

■ ■ ■ ■

A 2009 survey by Pew Research reported that 18 percent of respondents said that they had seen or had been in the presence of ghosts. And according to a 2011 survey by Rasmussen Reports, 31 percent of adults believe in ghosts.

Do you believe in ghosts? Next week's *Saipan Tribune* "Opinion Meter" poll will ask this question, so I hope you'll tune in and register your answer.

In the meantime, the campfire is dying down. The air is still and quiet. The shadows from the jungle are growing long in the moonlight. So forget this ghost stuff, it's giving me the creeps. How about we go to Garapan for some karaoke, OK?

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of *Saipan Tribune* and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.



ing fiscal retreat to review the burgeoning financial calamity.

Now, did the power purchase agreement take into account that the Commonwealth Development Authority owns certain percentage in preferred stock with CUC? Can SDLLC legally confiscate what CDA owns with CUC? Or was this issue discussed and resolved? If so, how was it resolved? Or was it just ignored altogether to fast track signature?

The AG's and CUC also have major issues to which they say further analyses are needed to ensure a sound agreement. What were those 71 issues and were they factually resolved? Or were they shoved under the rug that includes ascertaining that the former AG isn't served the penal summons so that his signature and judgment aren't probed in the court of public scrutiny?

Unless something changes, the NMI debt would reach a level that is "unsustainable from both a budgetary and an economic perspective." Over time, big government debts can damage the economy.

The economists Kenneth Rogoff of Harvard University and Carmen Reinhart of the Peterson Institute for International Economics have found that "growth tends to slow sharply once government debt reaches 90 percent of GDP." Ours is definitely far worse! The \$2.25 billion power deal will hasten total fiscal calamity.

Like someone said, "When it gets bad... it really gets bad". Brace for it!

■ ■ ■ ■

Now, the race card was also trumpeted in GOP pocket meetings as the reason for the impeachment resolution. I respectfully disagree. Otherwise, the probe would have focused on blood quantum to qualify to run for public office here. It's a lame excuse in what's known as distraction and distortion to sway the conversation soliciting unearned sympathy.

Saipan needs educated and skilled people, a capable governing body, visions, and implementation plans. But it is not enough to have a vision; you also need to put it to reality. It is not mainly a question of technology but of motivation and I am not sure if Saipan is the right place.

A BOLD






From Page 10

little pollution, and cultural diversity. Saipan could become a place where affordable high-tech innovations in energy, water, and ag-

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲ 88° ▼ 78° | ▲ 88° ▼ 78° | ▲ 88° ▼ 78° | ▲ 88° ▼ 78° | ▲ 88° ▼ 78° |

Micronesia

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Guam and Rota | Sunny | ▲ 86 ▼ 79 |
| Palau | Showers | ▲ 85 ▼ 79 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲ 88 ▼ 78 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲ 85 ▼ 77 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲ 88 ▼ 77 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲ 88 ▼ 77 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲ 87 ▼ 81 |

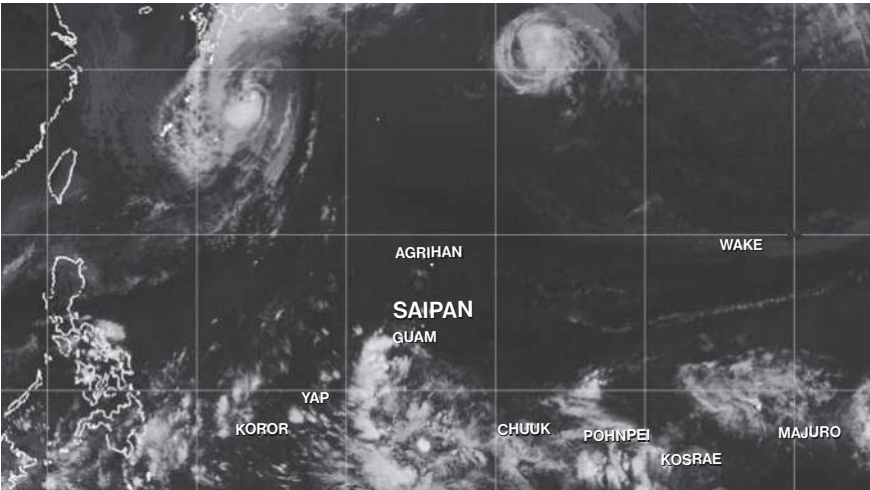
Around The Globe

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------|
| Auckland | Windy | ▲ 59 ▼ 52 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲ 71 ▼ 45 |
| Hong Kong | Sunny | ▲ 82 ▼ 74 |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 86 ▼ 74 |
| London | Showers | ▲ 57 ▼ 50 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲ 83 ▼ 62 |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 89 ▼ 79 |
| Melbourne | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 76 ▼ 48 |
| Miami | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 86 ▼ 74 |
| New York | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 67 ▼ 59 |
| Osaka | Sunny | ▲ 71 ▼ 55 |
| Paris | Cloudy | ▲ 69 ▼ 58 |
| Pusan | Sunny | ▲ 72 ▼ 56 |
| Rome | Sunny | ▲ 78 ▼ 59 |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 68 ▼ 52 |
| San Francisco | Sunny | ▲ 85 ▼ 61 |
| Seoul | Sunny | ▲ 68 ▼ 51 |
| Tokyo | Showers | ▲ 67 ▼ 54 |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 73 ▼ 57 |

Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | | |
|---------------|-------|------------|----------|
| 5:06 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.5 Feet |
| 12:04 PM | Today | High Tide: | 2.0 Feet |
| 5:38 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 1.1 Feet |
| 10:32 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.9 Feet |

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging southwest winds south and southeast of Tropical Storm Prapiroon (22W) northeast of Okinawa are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the northwest corner of the discussion area northwest of a line from 19N135E to 25N138E. A near-equatorial trough meanders eastward from southwest of Koror at 2N130E through a broad circulation centered southwest of Chuuk at 4N146E to end southeast of Kosrae at EQ167E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found north of the trough near Koror within 70 miles of a line from 7N133E to 11N134E and also northwest of Pohnpei between 9N and 11N from 155E to 158E. Similar weather is also seen near the trough axis in the vicinity of Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae within 100 miles of a line from 7N150E to 5N158E to 4N163E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near the circulation south of Guam within 275 miles of a line from 10N141E to 5N148E. A surface trough extends east-southeastward from near Enewetak Atoll at 11N166E through another circulation centered east of Majuro at 8N179W to well beyond the date line. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are present near the trough over Bikini and Utirik atolls between 9N and 12N from 163E to 172E and also near the circulation east of Majuro east of a line from 10N173E to 7N174E to 2N178E.

Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 6:10 AM | 5:54 PM |
| Saturday | 6:10 AM | 5:54 PM |
| Sunday | 6:10 AM | 5:53 PM |
| Monday | 6:10 AM | 5:53 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:10 AM | 5:52 PM |

Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| Today | 9:43 AM | 9:22 PM |
| Saturday | 10:43 AM | 10:23 PM |
| Sunday | 11:39 AM | 11:23 PM |
| Monday | 12:30 PM | |
| Tuesday | 1:17 PM | 12:21 AM |

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPT 23, 2012

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|--|---------|----------|--------------------------|--|---------|-----------|--------------------------|
| GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) | | | | ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) | | | |
| UA5062 | 2:40am | 3:10am | 1, 3, 5 | UA5062 | 3:45am | 5:40am | 1, 3, 5 |
| SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP) | | | | ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN) | | | |
| UA5062 | 2:40am | 3:15am | 1, 3, 5 | UA5062 | 3:40am | 4:15am | 1, 3, 5 |
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5070 | 4:35am | 5:25am | 2, 4, 6, 7 | UA5062 | 2:40am | 4:20am | 1, 3, 5 via ROP |
| UA5062 | 4:50am | 5:40am | 1, 3, 5 | UA 5069 | 2:45am | 3:35am | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA5068 | 8:40am | 9:30am | Daily | UA5071 | 7:10am | 8:00am | Daily |
| UA5074 | 11:30am | 12:20pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 | UA5073 | 10:05am | 10:55am | Daily |
| UA5076 | 3:10pm | 4:00pm | Daily | UA5075 | 1:45pm | 2:35pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| UA5078 | 6:50pm | 7:40pm | Daily | UA5077 | 5:25pm | 6:15pm | Daily |
| UA5072 | 9:55pm | 10:45pm | Daily | UA5079 | 8:35pm | 9:25pm | Daily |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL287 | 6:05am | 8:45am | Daily | DL298 | 10:25am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| DL297 | 4:35pm | 7:20pm | Daily | DL288 | 8:15pm | 12:50am+1 | Daily |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 | OZ603 | 8:50am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ606 | 2:50am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ604 | 3:30pm | 6:55pm | Daily | OZ605 | 8:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| SAIPAN (SPN)-PUSAN (BUS) | | | | PUSAN (BUS)-SAIPAN (SPN) | | | |
| U2608 | 3:20am | 6:35am | 4, 7 | OZ607 | 9:25pm | 2:20am+1 | 3, 6 |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) | | | | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 | 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) | | | | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606/701 | 2:20am | 11:05am | 1 via ICN | DL172/288 | 7:50am | 12:50am+1 | Daily via NRT |
| OZ606/701 | 2:50am | 11:05am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | UA190/5077 | 10:55am | 6:15pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| UA5070/191 | 4:35am | 9:55am | 3, 6 via GUM | UA190/5079 | 10:55am | 9:25pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| DL287/173 | 6:05am | 10:00pm | Daily via NRT | OZ702/605 | 12:15pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| UA5076/183 | 3:10pm | 8:45pm | Daily via GUM | OZ702/605 | 12:15pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA5076/193 | 3:10pm | 10:25pm | 2, 5 via GUM-Palau | PR110/UA5071 | 10:10pm | 8:00am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ604/703 | 3:30pm | 10:45pm | Daily via ICN | UA192/5071 | 9:45pm | 8:00am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-Palau |
| UA5072/PR111 | 9:55pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM | UA184/5071 | 10:55pm | 8:00am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| | | | | UA184/5071 | 11:25pm | 8:00am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| | | | | OZ704/603 | 11:45pm | 2:20pm+1 | Daily via ICN |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) | | | | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606/721 | 2:20am | 11:50pm | 1 via ICN | OZ750/603 | 1:00am | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:50am | 11:50pm | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | OZ722/605 | 1:10pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| UA5076/147 | 3:10pm | 9:40pm | 1, 5 via GUM | OZ722/605 | 1:10pm | 1:45am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| OZ604/749 | 3:30pm | 11:00pm | Daily via ICN | UA180/5071 | 10:50pm | 8:00am+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |
| LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana | | | | ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.) | | | |

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency | Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|---------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily | FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| Guam-Rota | | | | FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily | FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| Rota-Saipan | | | | | | | |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | Tinian-Saipan | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily | FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| Rota-Guam | | | | FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily | FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| Saipan-Rota | | | | FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| FRE 400 | 19:40 | 20:10 | Daily | FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| Saipan-Tinian | | | | FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily | FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily | FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily | FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily | FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily | FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily | FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| | | | | FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Informed decision

Now we can make an informed decision as to who is to be voted into, or out of, office. While people heard all bureaucratic red tapes and issues that are going around the entire CNMI, they can finally reach an informed decision come Election Day.

I ask all registered voters to start taking time and consider who to represent us at the helm, especially in the House of Rep-

resentatives. We have to remind ourselves and know who had produced for us that makes our life better and who are those that sat on their chairs for three years and did nothing. I suggest that even if this person is your relative and had voted him into office for who he is and not what they have as ability and strength to make our life better, don't vote for the same this time around.

The Honorable Nine

To honorable Rep. Joe Deleon Guerrero: It's not really about the no-bid contracts or the late Chinese take-out craving that concerned me as to why I want the governor impeached. It's the ethics! In the U.S. mainland, a congressman who posted lewd pictures of himself on the Internet resigned because people called for his resignation. He eventually stepped down. Former governor Rod Blagojevich of Chicago was impeached for selling the vacant seat of then senator Barack Obama. These two separate incidents are just a fraction of what our governor did on this island.

Our governor is accused of 16 infractions, if not more! Still, 16 is just a number to his loyal supporters. Wait! I take that back. Children. Since they label the governor "Father." Win or lose, honorable Rep. Joe Deleon Guerrero, you have the love of the CNMI who backed you up on this. Do not be discouraged. We got this far and I believe that the 10 who voted "no" will be ousted this election. And my hope is that the 18th CNMI Legislature may re-introduce the impeachment resolution until justice to the taxpayers is resolved.

I thank the others for their

We know what is coming to us.

Be careful with politicians also that represent deceit. They use one's weaknesses to win votes. They come with gifts either cash or in-kind when election is approaching. This is not traditional or cultural in any way but just during the election season in their effort to win votes. They will come with this intent to make you believe that they have the tools to fix what is broken, only to make things worse.

Ask the right question. Analyze what you and your household members went through in

the last three years and see how one can help you better. You need to ask yourself what laws have been enacted that affect you and your and your household positively; those laws that improved your opportunities for protection, growth, and development in your life, that helped your entire household members as well.

What are the issues that are affecting your life negatively? What have these people that are at the helm done to address it? These are just a few questions that politicians should be made accountable before election day.

Choose your representatives carefully. Give credit where it's

due, but do give a dime to those who do not deserve your vote so they can take a taxi somewhere. Let's keep those who have performed satisfactorily and let go of those that you know are not performing for our betterment. Choose a candidate who knows how to balance empathy and compassion during the performance of their leadership skills and their visions of ideology. Good luck, everyone. May the stroke of the pen be righteous! But then again, you are free to make your own choice.

Alfred A. Pangelinan
Dandan, Saipan

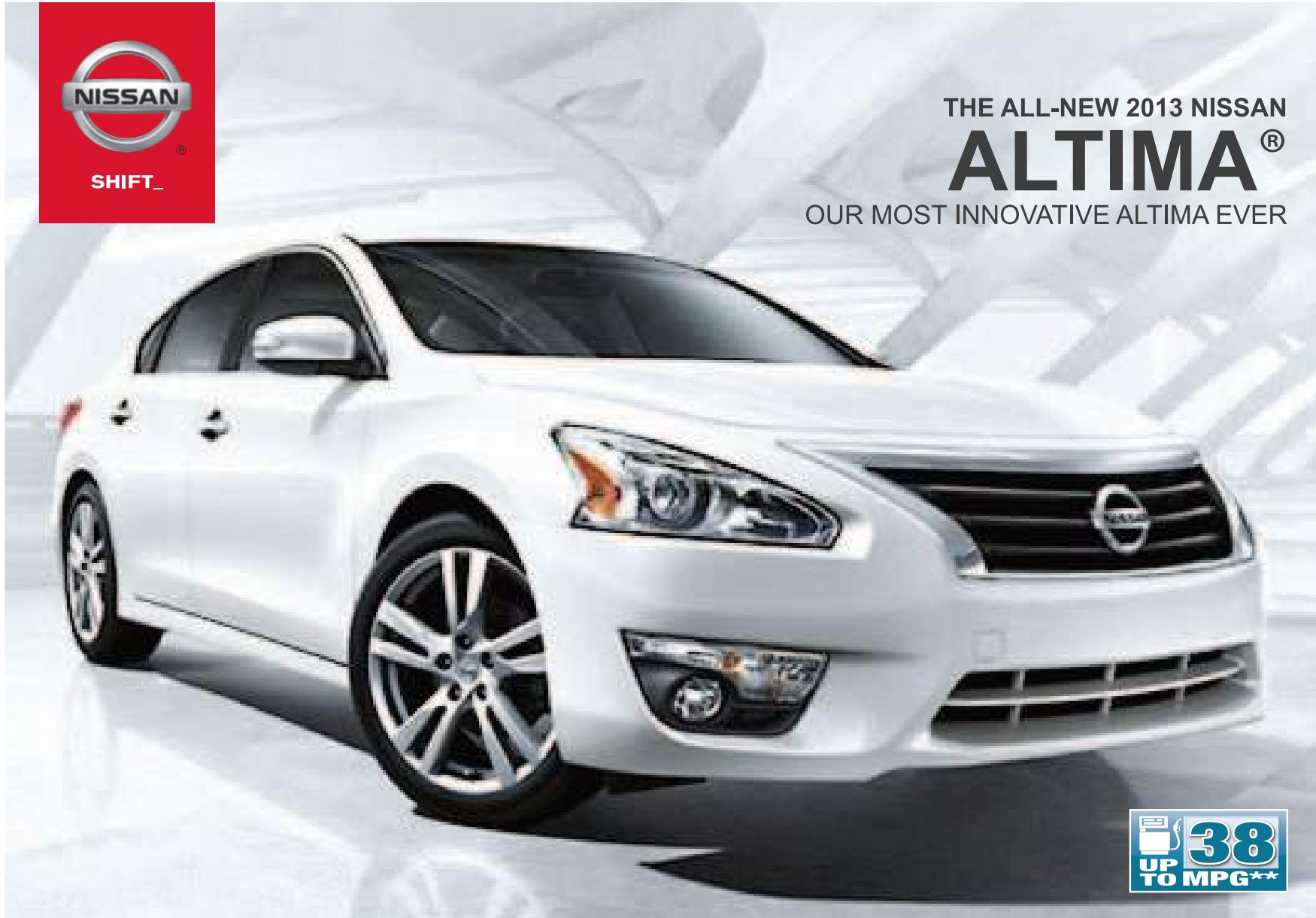
Fear and lies

I'd just like to say what the impeachment has made of everyone in the Legislature and in the Executive Branch. It has caused all of them to live in fear and lies. Fear of exercising their duty to serve and protect the good of the Commonwealth, fear of speaking the truth about the corruption in government, fear of getting fired if the truth is spoken.

Vice speaker Ogumoro, I hope that when the time comes for voting to impeach Fitial, you will make the only right choice to pro-

tect the Commonwealth, the families, the young who will be the future leaders of the Commonwealth, and your reputation. Rep. Fred Guerrero, you are a rookie in the Legislature, stand tall, build a legend. Vote to impeach Fitial and to protect our people from him. Are you legislators ready for the outrage that will follow if you fail to remove corruption from our government?

Edwardo K. Peter
Tigard, Oregon



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Superior Court clerk Bernadita Sablan retires



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bernadita A. Sablan, shown here holding the plaque, is joined by, from left to right, Director of Courts Tracy M. Guerrero, executive director of the Law Revision Commission Heather L. Kennedy, Chief Justice Alejandro C. Castro, Supreme Court law clerk Jeff El-Hajj, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, NMI Bar Association president Sean E. Frink, Associate Judge David A. Wiseman, Associate Justice John A. Manglona, and Deputy Director of Courts Sonia A Camacho.

Bernadita "Bernie" A. Sablan ended 25 years of service with the CNMI Superior Court on Oct. 12.

Her career with the Judiciary began in 1986 as a deputy clerk II and culminated with nearly seven years in the important leadership position of clerk of the Superior Court. She served under five presiding judges: Robert A. Hefner, Pedro M. Atalig, Alejandro C. Castro, Edward Manibusan, and Robert C. Naraja.

The Superior Court's office is the biggest division in the Judiciary, where things begin for almost all parties coming to the Judiciary, whether it is to ob-

tain a police clearance or file a multi-million dollar lawsuit.

The clerk's office interacts with all the other divisions of the Judiciary, its judges and the clerk of the Supreme Court. It also interfaces with members of the NMI Bar Association, pro se litigants and multiple other law enforcement and government agencies.

At Sablan's retirement ceremony, held specifically in Courtroom 202 where she performed deputy clerk duties for Manibusan when the current court facilities first opened, she was praised for her work and dedication by Chief Justice Alejandro C. Castro, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, Associ-

ate Judges David A. Wiseman, Kenneth L. Govendo, Perry B. Inos, and Joseph N. Camacho.

The plaque they presented to her made reference to her material contribution "to the maintenance of liberty under law through the fair and impartial administration of justice in the CNMI."

So great was the fondness and the respect felt by her colleagues for "Bernie" that attendance by the Judiciary's judges and staff at the lunch-time retirement ceremony was virtually universal. Everybody expressed the opinion that she would be greatly missed as a co-worker and friend. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy first birthday to Logan Glementino Odashi Ngeskebei Daniel aka Bibulech! A year's gone by, how time has flown. We can't believe how Bibulech's grown! He's such a joy, and so much fun. Oh my! Logan is turning one! With love, Lani Iva Fritz-Figueroa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to our wonderful and loving sister, daughter, and aunt, Stella Marie P. Mingefi! Families from far and near send their greetings and blessings to you on your very special day. We all hope your birthday is filled with joy, happiness and laughter. Enjoy and God bless you on this day and forward. Greetings come from the families in Vancouver, sisters in Virginia, and most especially your favorite sister DEL and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to the best grandpa ever, my grandpa Romeo Herman. I hope you enjoy your day and I love you always, Lea Salalila.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Juan Quitugua Jr. (J-Boy). We wish you the best and many more to come. Greetings come from your cousins Rhian Napu, Tyreen Mercedes, and your aunties Beng, Noreen, and Nora.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy first birthday to Jarell Jude Passi Herman! We love, love you, little man! Don't grow up too fast! Love, Uncle Rod, Aunty Mar, and your T8 family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 23rd birthday to our brother Sallanter Herman! Wishing you nothing but happiness and joy on your day. Missing and loving you always, your siblings.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Please VOTE

#1

Dr. Ignacia Tudela DEMAPAN

Republican for U.S. Congress



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Guam welcomes its one millionth visitor this year

TUMON, Guam—Early Wednesday morning at 1:50am, the Guam International Airport Arrivals area was lively with travel and tourism industry partners ready and eager to greet the millionth visitor to Guam for calendar year 2012.

Led by acting governor Ray Tenorio and joined by Sen. Tina Muña Barnes, Guam Visitors Bureau representatives, GIAA representatives, officials from Korean Airlines, Hana Tour, and the Pacific Islands Club, the delegation welcomed Hyung Suk Kim, his wife Jae Kyung Kim, and their daughter Da Wool Kim.

Unaware that he was the millionth visitor, the Kim family was surprised and pleased to learn on their entering the arrivals area that they were being

honored as the one-millionth visitor to Guam.

"We're only at mid-October and we've already welcomed our millionth tourist," Tenorio said, "I hope this is a sign of a record-breaking year in tourism. This industry is strong because of the thousands of men and women who work in every profession of hospitality. Governor Calvo and I thank all the housekeepers, wait staff, flight attendants, cooks, helpers, front desk attendants, supervisors, managers, clerks, entertainers, bartenders, busers, concierges, HR and marketing professionals, accountants and account clerks, lifeguards, and everyone who keeps the tourism industry going. This milestone is a sign of great things to come."

At the welcoming event, Ms.

World Guam Geneva Bosko presented leis to the three visitors, with the delegation following to congratulate the family. Kim and his family were given the VIP treatment with escorts through the Guam International Airport's Immigration and Customs Area. They were also presented with a free round-trip ticket back to Guam courtesy of Korean Airlines, limo service from Hana Tour, and an upgraded room from the Pacific Islands Club Guam.

"This is the first time that the millionth visitor has come from Korea," GVB general manager Joann G. Camacho said, "Korea is growing by leaps and bounds and with the addition of Jeju Air as well as the additional service by Korean Airlines from Busan,

we will be doubling our current seat capacity from the market. We are happy to welcome Mr. Kim and his family to Guam and wish him a great experience to our island and people."

On average Korean visitors stay in Guam for five days and spend on average around \$425 a day. Preliminary arrivals from Korea for calendar year 2012 show a 14.5-percent increase over the same period (January 2012 through September 2012) or 127,650.

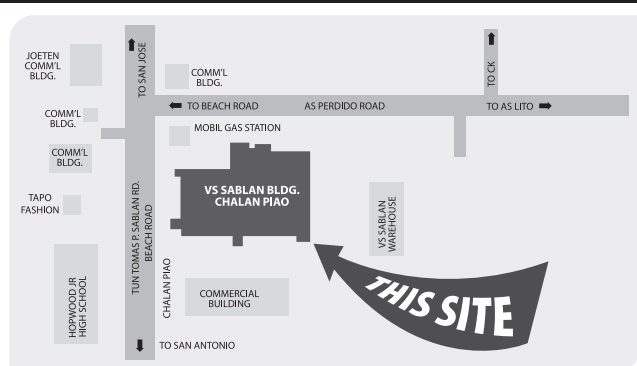
Kim and his family will return to Korea on Friday, Oct. 19, 2012. **(GVB)**

Hyung Suk Kim is greeted as the one-millionth visitor to Guam for calendar year 2012.

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Tan Holdings' 'Basket of Hope' touches students, families

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Thanksgiving and Christmas came early for many public school students and their families after receiving this week gift baskets called "Basket of Hope," courtesy of Tan Holdings Corp.

Since Monday, Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan has been visiting public schools to personally deliver 400 baskets of goodies to selected public school students in elementary and secondary schools.

Each "Basket of Hope" contains 40 assorted items—from food supplies to laundry products—worth \$400 and recipients are selected through raffle drawings. This effort is part of activities lined up in celebration of the company's 40 years of doing business in the Commonwealth and the region.

The "Basket of Hope" initiative has a total value of \$160,000 and is just one of the many donations being provided public schools this year, including 5,000 laptop sleeves for middle and high school students, sports equipment for Tinian and Rota schools, and 40 soccer balls for each school.

Glory Ragadi, a mother of a 13-year-old student at Hopwood Junior High School, told *Saipan Tribune* that she was touched by the generous donation of Tan Holdings. Ragadi, 60, lost her job to take care of her sick husband. Last Wednesday, she was informed by her son Alfredo that their family won in the school's raffle for "Basket of Hope."

"This is really a big help for



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan and Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas, center, pose with the recipients of the "Basket of Hope" donated by the company in celebration of 40 years of doing business in the Commonwealth and in Micronesia. Also in photo are Tan Siu Lin Foundation manager Ed Arriola and Hopwood officials and staff during a ceremony Wednesday at the school library.

our family and I can't thank you enough Tan Holdings and PSS for this early Christmas gift," Ragadi said, adding that the family currently relies on the \$133 they get from the food stamp program each month.

Magdalena Ilo, a 38-year-old mother of four, expressed surprise when her daughter, Betrylynn, informed her about their family winning a "Basket of Hope."

"We're very thankful for this basket of goodies and...just by looking what's inside, this will greatly help us," she said.

According to Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas, 48 of the 1,200 students on his campus and

their families will receive Tan Holdings' "Basket of Hope."

Tan Holdings also donated 40 soccer balls to Hopwood, with Tan encouraging the students to actively participate in sports programs.

According to Tan, the donation is just a simple way to express Tan Holdings' appreciation for the support it has received from the community throughout the years.

Hopwood was the seventh school that Tan's group visited since Monday. He said they will also visit other schools on the three islands.

Among the schools that were visited this week included Gre-

gorio T. Camacho, which received eight "Basket of Hope" packages, 41 notebooks, 40 soccer balls; Tanapag Elementary received seven "Basket of Hope" packages, 36 notebooks, and 40 soccer balls; Garapan Elementary was provided 35 "Basket of Hope" packages, 171 notebooks, and 40 soccer balls; Oleai Elementary had 21 "Basket of Hope" packages, 103 notebooks and 40 soccer balls; Marianas High School received 58 "Basket of Hope" packages and 1,449 laptop sleeves; William Reyes had 29 "Basket of Hope" packages, 140 notebooks, and 40 soccer balls; and San Antonio received

12 "Basket of Hope" packages, 60 notebooks, and 40 soccer balls last Wednesday.

Tan disclosed that preparation for the project took six months to complete.

"This is a very special year for Tan Holdings. We've been here for 40 years and we will continue to be part of the community in the CNMI and the region for the next 40 years!" added Tan.

Some five years ago, Tan Holdings donated \$250,000 to public schools.

Tan Holdings also provided scholarship assistance to 40 students of Northern Marianas Trade Institute.

22 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged 22 beaches on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected beaches are Paupau Beach, Palms Resort, Tanapag Meeting Hall, Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel Bridge, S. Puerto Rico Dump, Micro Beach, Hyatt, Fiesta Resort, Fiesta drainage, Samoa Housing, Hafadai Hotel, Hafadai drainage, Garapan Fishing Dock, Garapan Beach, Garapan Beach drainage, Chalan Laulau Beach, Civic Center, Kanoa Hotel, Community School beach, Sugar Dock, and CK Dist. 2 drainage.

DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

Water samples were taken from 38 locations on Saipan coast on Wednesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

Over-the-cap salary certifications for 2 govt lawyers

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial certified and granted the over-the-cap salaries of two assistant attorneys general.

In separate Oct. 4 letters to Senate President Paul Manglo-na (Ind-Rota) and House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), the governor certified and granted the \$74,000 per annum salary of assistant attorney general Kathryn B. Fuller and the \$54,000 annual salary of assistant attorney general Reena J. Patel. These letters were on the agenda of the House session on Wednesday.

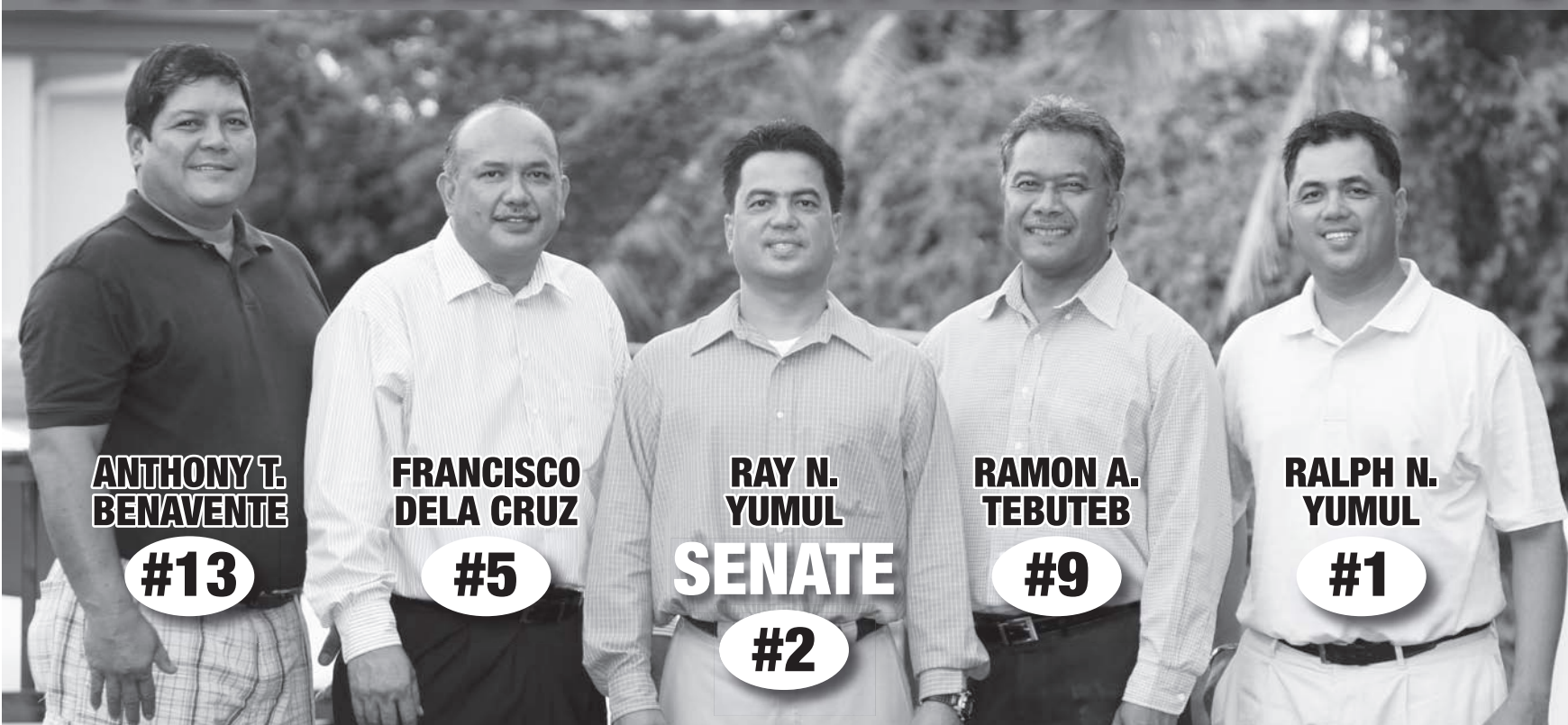
The governor is required by law to report government salaries that are over \$50,000 a year.

Fitial's two letters also served as notification to the Civil Service Commission chairperson of the over-the-cap salary certification.

The Salary Amendment Act of 1992 sets the salary ceiling for government employees at \$50,000. However, the law gives the governor the authority to waive the ceiling and submit a certification to the Legislature.

Most of the over-the-cap salaries are for attorneys at the Office of the Attorney General and physicians and other medical staffers at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

VOTE INDEPENDENT IN PRECINCT 3



TOGETHER WE CAN

Bank of Hawaii awards grants to five Saipan small businesses

Bank of Hawaii named ALAI Preschool & Tutorial, Inc., Gospel Light Daycare, Jess Multi-Farms, Marianas Made, and Matsumoto Farms as recipients of the *I Kinometi Para I Kumunidât I Islâ-ta* Small Business Revitalization and Development Grants. Each awardee received \$5,000.

Bank of Hawaii established the grant program to help promote new Saipan businesses and to encourage existing small businesses to expand.

■ ALAI Preschool & Tutorial, Inc. will purchase curriculum, assessment and professional development materials plus indoor jungle gym equipment to help it cater to a broader range of clientele.

■ Gospel Light Daycare will expand its space and improve the playground so that it can increase enrollment.

■ Jess Multi-Farms will purchase materials to expand through development of an aquaculture operation.

■ Marianas Made will hire

BANK OF HAWAII
Bank of Hawaii congratulates three of the five grant recipients. From left: Bank of Hawaii executive vice president and chief compliance officer Peg Meagher, ALAI Preschool & Tutorial, Inc. director Nina Rivera, Gospel Light Daycare director Diomedes Lenon, Jess Multi-Farms owner Jess Castro, and Bank of Hawaii Garapan Branch Consumer Banking Representative manager Herminio Matsumoto.

two part-time employees and invest in display fixtures and a commerce website to better market the work of local artists.

■ Matsumoto Farms will purchase and install new tanks to allow it to expand its tilapia production to meet growing demand.

Bank of Hawaii is committed to encouraging economic development to help its communities grow and thrive. In addition to this grant program, Bank of Hawaii continues to support the Saipan community through grants made by



Bank of Hawaii Foundation and through the work of its employees who provide financial education and serve on the boards of local non-profits. (BOH)



BANK OF HAWAII
From left: CNMI Small Business Development Center director Perry A. Inos Jr., Marianas Made sole proprietor Debra Kay, Matsumoto Farms manager James Matsumoto, and Bank of Hawaii senior vice president and deputy division manager of Pacific Islands Division John Sheather.

High Court hires new Clerk of Court

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro has appointed Deanna M. Manglona to the position of Clerk of Court of the Commonwealth Supreme Court. The Clerk of Court is one of highest ranking employees in the Supreme Court and is responsible for the receipt of all appellate filings as well as the daily operations of the Clerk of Court's Office.

Prior to her appointment, Manglona served as the law clerk for Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo since 2010.



Manglona

She earned her law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan in 2010 and her bachelor's degree in Economics from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio in 2007. Manglona graduated from the Academy of Our Lady of Guam in 2003.

Chief Justice Castro said, "I am elated to appoint Deanna Manglona as the Clerk of Court. She has the professionalism and qualifications necessary for the office. Her

continued employment here and intimate knowledge of the inner workings of our Commonwealth Judiciary will be helpful in making the Clerk's Office operate smoothly."

"I thank Chief Justice Castro for his confidence in me, and I will work very hard to implement fairly the policies and procedures of the Clerk of Court's Office. I am also very appreciative to Judge Kenneth Govendo and Presiding Judge Robert Naraja for all their guidance the past two years," said Manglona.

Manglona, 27, assumes office on Oct. 22, 2012. (NMI Judiciary)



Business

China shows signs economic recovery taking shape

BEIJING (AP)—China's economic growth tumbled to the lowest in more than three years in the latest quarter but retail sales and other activity accelerated in a sign a recovery from the painful downturn is taking shape.

The world's second-largest economy grew by 7.4 percent in the three months ending in September, below the Communist Party's 7.5 percent target for the full year, data showed Thursday. That was down from the previous quarter's 7.6 percent and the lowest since the first quarter of 2009 in

the midst of the global crisis.

In a sign of an emerging recovery, economic activity in the latest quarter was up by 2.2 percent from the previous three month period, the biggest quarter-on-quarter gain in a year, said Dariusz Kowalczyk, senior economist for Credit Agricole CIB in Hong Kong.

"This confirms that the economy is rebounding from the trough in the first quarter of this year," Kowalczyk said. "There is no room and no need for further major stimulus."

Beijing has cut interest rates twice since early June and is in-

jecting money into the economy through high investment by state companies and spending on building subways and other public works. But authorities have avoided launching a massive stimulus after huge spending in response to the 2008 global crisis fueled inflation and a wasteful building boom.

Retail sales rose 14.4 percent, accelerating from the 14.1 percent rate for the first half of the year. Investment in factories and other fixed assets also improved, rising 20.5 percent in the first nine months of the year, up from a 20.2 percent rate for

the first eight months.

"We can see a clear sign of steady economic growth," said Sheng Laiyun, spokesman for the National Bureau of Statistics. "There is a smaller margin of decline and some major indicators have been growing faster."

A rebound in Chinese growth would be good news for economies such as Australia, Brazil and African countries that supply its factories with iron ore and other commodities.

The slowdown is due largely to government curbs imposed on lending and investment

controls to cool an overheated economy and inflation. But it worsened last year after global demand for Chinese goods plunged unexpectedly.

China's expansion is strong compared with the United

States and Japan, where this year's growth is forecast in low single digits, but the slowdown has been painful for companies that depend on high growth to drive demand for new factories and other goods.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Surge in US home construction could lift economy

U.S. home construction is making a comeback that could invigorate the economy's still-weak recovery. Builders last month started construction on single-family houses and apartments at the fastest rate in more than four years, the Commerce Department said Wednesday. And they laid plans to build homes at an even faster pace in coming months—a signal of their confidence that the housing rebound will last. The pace of construction has grown steadily in the past year, and analysts expect it to keep rising. The increase has been fueled by record-low mortgage rates, more stable home prices and a shortage of previously occupied homes for sale. (AP)

American puts up 'help wanted' sign after buyouts

NEW YORK (AP)—Wanted: A few good recruits to serve coffee and help combat terrorism at 30,000 feet. American Airlines said Wednesday that it will post job openings for 1,500 flight attendants next month. It will start hiring in December and put the new staff in training beginning in January. That may seem like

a strange move for a company trying to cut labor costs under bankruptcy protection. But the airline needs to replace some of the 2,205 flight attendants that have accepted a \$40,000 buyout to leave the company—the equivalent of about a year's salary. It's the first time the company has hired flight attendants in 11 years.

After Pandit, a smaller Citi could get smaller yet

NEW YORK (AP)—The incredible shrinking bank may have to shrink more. In the hours after Tuesday's surprise announcement that Citigroup CEO Vikram Pandit was stepping down, speculation was rife, and facts scant, about what lay ahead for the nation's third-largest bank. Pandit left after a series of embarrassments and missteps that apparently unsettled Citigroup's board, including a "no" vote from shareholders on his pay package and a ruling from the Federal Reserve that the bank was not strong enough to raise its stock dividend. Under his successor, one possibility given high odds by financial analysts is a strategy of more cost-cutting, more shrinking and more focus on boring, traditional banking, like making loans.



How is your baby growing?

If your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay, talk to your doctor, nurse, or other health care provider about it:

Developmental Health Watch 4 Years (48 Months) to 5 Years (60 Months)

- Acts extremely aggressively
- Is easily distracted and unable to concentrate on any single activity for more than five minutes
- Refuses to respond to people in general, or responds only superficially
- Seems unhappy or sad much of the time
- Doesn't express a wide range of emotions
- Can't tell the difference between fantasy and reality
- Can't correctly give first and last name
- Doesn't talk about his/her daily activities and experiences
- Seems uncomfortable holding a crayon
- Cannot brush teeth efficiently
- Experiences a dramatic loss of skills he or she once had

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

You may also contact the **Children's Developmental Assistance Center (C*DAC)** at **664-4830**

for a **FREE** developmental screening!

Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early. Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.



PRECINCT 2
UNITED FOR CHANGE

Birthday Dinner FUNDRAISER

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AQUINO
DANIEL IWASHITA



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PRECINCT 2

Friday, October 19, 2012
6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Kanoa Resort Hotel, Susupe
(formerly Saipan Grand Hotel)

Teppanyaki Menu with
All You Can Drink Draft Beer & Tea!
\$30.00 per person

Nation

Obama, Romney seek support from women after debate

MOUNT VERNON, Iowa (AP)—One day after their contentious, finger-pointing debate, President Barack Obama and Republican Mitt Romney vied

aggressively for the support of women voters Wednesday, as they and their running mates charged across nearly a half-dozen battleground states in the

close race for the White House with 20 days to run.

Not even Republicans disputed that Obama's debate performance was much stronger than

the listless showing two weeks earlier that helped spark a rise in the polls for Romney. The two rivals meet one more time, next Monday in Florida.

The first post-debate polls were divided, some saying Romney won, others finding Obama did. At least some of the voters who asked the questions in the town-hall style encounter remained uncommitted. "If Gov. Romney could actually provide the jobs, that would be a good thing because we really need them," said Nina Gonzalez, a 2008 Obama voter, neatly summarizing the uncertainty confronting voters in a slow-growth, high-unemployment economy.

Obama wore a pink wristband to show support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month as he campaigned in Iowa and then Ohio, and reminded his audience that the first legislation he signed after becoming president made it easier for women to take pay grievances to court.

Romney took no position on that bill when it passed Congress, and his campaign says he would not seek its repeal. But Obama chided him, saying, "That shouldn't be a complicated question. Equal pay for equal work."

He also jabbed at Romney's remark during Tuesday night's debate that as Massachusetts governor, he received "whole

binders full of women" after saying he wanted to appoint more of them to his administration. "We don't have to collect a bunch of binders to find qualified, talented women," he said.

"I've got two daughters and I don't want them paid less for the same job as a man," Obama said at an appearance in Athens, Ohio, later Wednesday.

Romney's campaign launched a new television commercial that seemed designed to take the edge ever so slightly off his opposition to abortion - another example of his October move toward the middle - while urging women voters to keep pocketbook issues uppermost in their minds when they cast their ballots.



President Barack Obama and Republican presidential candidate, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, pause as they participate in the second presidential debate, Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2012, at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y.

Man held in NYC plot to blow up Federal Reserve

NEW YORK (AP)—A Bangladeshi man who came to the United States to wage jihad was arrested in an elaborate FBI sting on Wednesday after attempting to blow up a fake car bomb outside the Federal Reserve building in Manhattan, authorities said.

Before trying to carry out the alleged terrorism plot, Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis went to a warehouse to help assemble a 1,000-pound bomb using inert material, according to a criminal complaint. He also asked an undercover agent to videotape him saying, "We will not stop until we attain victory or martyrdom," the complaint said.

Agents grabbed the 21-year-old Nafis—armed with a cell-

phone he believed was rigged as a detonator—after he made several attempts to blow up the bomb inside a vehicle parked next to the Federal Reserve, the complaint said.

Authorities emphasized that the plot never posed an actual risk. However, they claimed the case demonstrated the value of using sting operations to neutralize young extremists eager to harm Americans.

"Attempting to destroy a landmark building and kill or maim untold numbers of innocent bystanders is about as serious as the imagination can conjure," said Mary Galligan, acting head of the FBI's New York office. "The defendant faces appropriately severe consequences."

Nafis appeared in federal court in Brooklyn to face charges of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and attempting to provide material support to al-Qaida. Wearing a brown T-shirt and black jeans, he was ordered held without bail and did not enter a plea. His defense attorney had no comment outside court.

The defendant had sought assurances from an undercover agent posing as an al-Qaida contact that the terrorist group would support the operation.

"The thing that I want to do ask you about is that, the thing I'm doing, it's under al-Qaida?" he was recorded saying during a meeting in bugged hotel room in Queens, according to the complaint.

reported in Florida and in Virginia, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Wednesday. That brings deaths to eight in Tennessee; three in Florida and Michigan, two in Indiana and Virginia, and one in Maryland.

Coach quits in Maine Zumba prostitution scandal

KENNEBUNK, Maine (AP)—A long-time high school hockey coach whose name appeared on a list of men accused of paying a local Zumba fitness instructor for sex has stepped down, the first known job loss associated with the scandal. Kennebunk High School coach

Donald Hill told school officials he wouldn't seek to renew his contract for next season after 14 years as head coach, school Superintendent Andrew Dolloff said Wednesday. The coach cited personal reasons, Dolloff said. Police on Tuesday released the names, ages and addresses of 21 men to receive summonses after being accused of engaging a prostitute, and many more names will be released in the coming weeks. A lawyer who's seen the list said more than 150 people are suspected of being johns. Hill, 52, was listed alongside a former mayor and several businessmen in southern Maine. Men from Massachusetts and New Hampshire also are on the list.

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2012 Candidates

FOR SENATE 2012

#3 TEREGEYO
Ana Sablan



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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#11
SABLAN
Martin "Noi" Cabrera

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RE-ELECT #5
DEMAPAN
Rafael "Ralph" Sablan



#6
SABLAN
John Paul "Pacho" Palacios

PRECINCT 3



RE-ELECT #11
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TORRES
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PRECINCT 4



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Please Help
Support and Vote!



The Covenant Party of the CNMI hereby encourages all eligible voters to support Ana Sablan Teregeyo for the Senate as well as all Covenant Party House of Representatives Candidates.

We also ask for your support in re-electing Incumbent U.S. Congressional Candidate Gregorio Camacho "KILILI" Sablan and all independent Republican candidates for the House of Representatives in Precinct 1, Precinct 3, Precinct 4 and Precinct 5.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase. Olomwaay. Thank You.

ACROSS THE NATION

Meningitis outbreak deaths rise to 19

NEW YORK (AP)—Four more people have died in the national meningitis outbreak, bringing the death toll to 19, health officials said Wednesday. The deaths are among the 247 people in 15 states sickened in the outbreak. They all received shots of an apparently contaminated steroid medication made by a Massachusetts specialty pharmacy. Most of the patients contracted a rare fungal form of meningitis, after getting the shots for back pain over the past few months. Two developed infections from joint injections. Of the latest deaths, two were in Tennessee and one each was

Asia

Analysis: Lost in debate: reality of US-China ties

BEIJING (AP)—In the narrative of U.S. presidential politics, China is a Hollywood villain, a monetary cheat that is stealing American jobs.

But the one-dimensional caricature offered up by President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney obscures the crucial reality of U.S.-China relations: For all the talk about getting tough on Beijing, the U.S. and China are deeply entwined, defying easy solu-

tions to the friction and troubles that beset their relations.

The two countries are the first and second largest economies in the world, doing nearly a half-trillion dollars in trade which in turn buoys the global economy. Their governments are in constant contact on North Korea's and Iran's nuclear programs and Syria's civil war and are trying to work out rules of the road for their huge militaries and such 21st century problems as cyberwarfare.

Few relationships are as critical to the world today. Managing the competition for global influence between the world's superpower and its still-rising rival so that it does not become outright confrontation will be a priority for whoever wins next month's presidential election.

Little of the enormity and importance of U.S.-China ties

found its way into Tuesday night's debate between Obama and Romney. Instead, the candidates used it as a convenient foil for their campaign positions about revitalizing the U.S. economy and getting Americans back to work.

Both candidates sought to portray China as vacuuming up American jobs. Their arguments

PH's Aquino seeks improved ties with China

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Benigno Aquino III said Wednesday he hopes the new leaders who take over China next month can improve bilateral ties that were strained following a stand-off early this year at a disputed shoal in the South China Sea.

Relations have slightly improved due to recent talks, Aquino said, and since Philippine ships pulled out of the Scarborough Shoal. He said Chinese vessels have been in and out but there is freedom of navigation.

But the core issue—who has sovereign rights over the tiny, uninhabited rocks off the northern Philippine island of Luzon—has not been resolved and overshadows relations.

The Philippines wants international arbitration, which Beijing has ruled out. Manila also wants a broader agreement between China and the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations to tackle the disputes, while China prefers to negotiate individually with each claimant.

Aquino said he is hopeful that after the transition to a new leadership—when top leaders of the ruling Communist Party take over next month—Chinese domestic pressures will ease and “there will be more room to negotiate on a more reasonable term and less ultranationalist tones.”

The Chinese public was vocal in challenging Manila over the shoal, canceling vacations to the Philippines and urging the government to stand firm.

contained half-truths and flaws.

Romney said excessive regulation and misguided policies during Obama's first term drained away American jobs, turning China into “the largest manufac-

turer in the world.” Obama said Romney, through his work for private equity and investment firm Bain Capital, bore responsibility by investing in companies that moved jobs to China.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Cambodians line streets to see ex-king's body

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP)—The body of Cambodia's late King Norodom Sihanouk returned to his homeland Wednesday, welcomed by hundreds of thousands of mourners who packed tree-lined roads in the Southeast Asian nation's capital ahead of the royal funeral. Sihanouk, 89, died Monday of a heart attack in Beijing, where he had been receiving medical treatment since January. The former monarch was the last surviving Southeast Asian leader who guided his nation through postwar independence. He served as prime minister and twice as king before abdicating the throne for good in 2004.

British Spitfire planes to be dug up in Myanmar

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar signed a deal with a British aviation enthusiast to allow the excavation of a World War II treasure: dozens of Spitfire fighter planes reportedly buried by the British almost 70 years ago. Aviation enthusiast David J. Cundall said earlier this year he had found the aircraft after years of searching and they were believed to be in excellent condition. While details of their reported burial are obscure, Cundall has said they were shipped to the then-British colony called Burma near the end of the war and abandoned unused and in packing cases when they were not needed.


Prosecutors raid home of SKorean leader's brother

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean special prosecutors say they've raided the home of the president's eldest brother as part of an investigation into alleged irregularities in funding the president's retirement house. Opposition lawmakers have accused President Lee Myung-bak's office of selling Lee's son land for the house at below market value. They have also accused his office of using nearly \$1 million in state funds for the purchase of the Seoul property. Special prosecutors say they raided the house of Lee's brother Tuesday and will be opening an investigation into his role in the deal.



AP

In this Nov. 12, 2011 file photo, U.S. President Barack Obama, right, meets with Chinese President Hu Jintao at the APEC Summit in Honolulu.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-13-003

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-13-003

GATE VALVE & FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT KOBLERVILLE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Gate Valve and Fire Hydrant Replacement in Koblerville, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

The work consists of excavation & removal of existing gate valves and installation of new 6-inch and 8-inch gate valve and fire hydrant assemblies connected to a 6-inch or 8-inch main waterline. Payment is only for the item as completely installed and accepted by the CUC. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The Bidding Documents may be picked-up, upon receipt of payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **October 23, 2012 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “**Gate Valve and Fire Hydrant Replacement Koblerville, Saipan**” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 14, 2012**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 29, 2012** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is pleased to announce that they are now accepting Vendor Applications for the Kagman geographical area on Saipan.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25 or through email request to Fabian Ulloa, WIC Vendor Management Coordinator, at fabianu@cnmiwic.org beginning October 19, 2012.

The deadline for submission of completed applications and required documentation will be no later than 4:00 p.m., October 26, 2012.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the criteria guidelines provided with the application to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to Fabian Ulloa through email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or at 664-4066.

The CNMI WIC Program funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Food & Nutrition Service is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera
Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

World

Syria's wealthy businesses feel civil war squeeze

CAIRO (AP)—Syria's wealthy, long cultivated by President Bashar Assad as a support for his regime, are seeing their businesses pummeled by the bloody civil war. Factories have been burned down or damaged in fighting. International sanctions restrict their finances. Some warn that their companies are in danger of going under, worsening the country's buckling economy.

Assad may not have lost the backing of Syria's business elite, but some are losing faith. Many of those who can have fled abroad, hoping to ride out the turmoil, which is now in its 19th month and is only getting worse as rebels and regime forces tear apart the country in their

fight for power.

Several businessmen interviewed by The Associated Press say resentment is growing against Assad over the crisis—but they also aren't throwing their lot in with the rebellion. They are hunkering down, trying to salvage their companies.

One young businessman said his family factory in the suburbs of Damascus was damaged Wednesday, with windows blown out and part of the ceiling was destroyed when warplanes hit rebels in a neighboring building. Its several hundred employees had to hide in the basement until fighting eased enough that they could be bused out to safety.

"I feel that they are both just

as bad as each other," he said of the rebels and the government. "I could have died today because they (the rebels) were across the street from us and they (the planes) could have bombed us."

Syria's economy has been heavily hurt by the conflict, which activists say has left more than 30,000 dead. Inflation has risen to at least 36 percent. The currency has dropped around 50 percent, now trading at 75 pounds to the dollar on the black market, according to the factory owner. The government estimates economic losses at \$34 billion—almost half the gross domestic product—though the opposition puts the losses at nearly three times that amount.



AP
In this Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012 file photo, Syrians watch a televised broadcast of Syrian President Bashar Assad deliver a speech at Damascus University, at a restaurant in old Damascus, Syria.

Accused 9/11 plotter lectures military tribunal

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP)—The self-styled terrorist mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks lectured a military court on government hypocrisy Wednesday and wore a previously banned camouflage vest to his pretrial hearing before being rebuked by the judge for his comments.

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed was in court as part of a week-long hearing focusing largely on the secrecy rules that will gov-

ern legal proceedings against him at the U.S. base in Cuba.

Mohammed was allowed to wear a hunting-style camouflage vest with his white tunic and turban over the objections of prosecutors, who feared it might disrupt the proceedings.

It had no apparent effect, but his five-minute speech denouncing the government's arguments about the need to protect national security transfixed the court and drew a reprimand

from the judge.

Until that point, the 47-year-old Mohammed sat quietly through a day of courtroom arguments on proposed rules for handling classified evidence in the war-crimes case. When he finally spoke, it was to point out what he saw as the prosecution's hypocrisy for seeking to keep secret some details of what happened to him during years of captivity in the CIA's secret prisons.

Mohammed told the judge, Army Col. James Pohl, that "the government uses national security as it chooses," urging him to keep that in mind as he considers requests from defense lawyers and the American Civil Liberties Union to scale back the rules for evidence and testimony.

WORLD BRIEFS

Sudan: 660 dead since 2011 in fighting with rebels

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP)—Sudan says that fighting in two states along its disputed border with South Sudan has left over 600 people dead over the past 16 months, releasing rare casualty figures in an ongoing conflict that has inflamed tensions between the two countries. Interior Minister Ibrahim Mahmoud told the Sudanese parliament Tuesday that 662 people had been killed in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states, where rebel forces are battling government troops, since fighting broke out in June 2011. The minister's comments were quoted by the daily paper Al Sahafa on Wednesday. Mahmoud said that the military and police sustained heavy losses in battling the insurgency, but did not break down the figures between civilian, government, and rebel casualties.

Egyptian father: Daughter punished for not veiling

LUXOR, Egypt (AP)—A teacher in southern Egypt punished two 12-year-old schoolgirls for not wearing the Muslim headscarf by cutting their hair, the father of one girl said Wednesday, in an incident that stokes concerns over personal rights following the rise of Islamist political movements. The governor of Luxor province where the incident occurred called the teacher's actions "shameful" and said she had been transferred to another school. But rights groups say that some Islamic conservatives have been emboldened by the success of groups like Muslim Brotherhood and the ultra-conservative Salafi trend in parliamentary and presidential elections and have been increasingly brazen about forcing their standards on other Egyptians.

Brothels rescue cash-strapped Greek soccer team

LARISSA, Greece (AP)—The world's oldest profession is giving a whole new meaning to love of the game. Players on a cash-strapped Greek soccer team now wear pink practice jerseys with the logos "Villa Erotica" and "Soula's House of History," two bordellos it recruited as sponsors after drastic government spending cuts left the country's sports clubs facing ruin. Other teams have also turned to unconventional financing. One has a deal with a local funeral home and others have wooed kebab shops, a jam factory and producers of Greece's trademark feta cheese. But the amateur Voukafalas club—whose players include pizza delivery guys, students, waiters and a bartender—has raised eyebrows with its flamboyant sponsorship choice.



The Financial & Insurance Services Group, Inc.

REPOSSESSED VEHICLES FOR SALE

| YEAR: | MAKE: | MODEL: | LIC NO: |
|-------|--------|----------------|---------|
| 2001 | TOYOTA | ECHO / 4DR SDN | AED 862 |
| 1997 | TOYOTA | T100 XCAB PTRK | ACK 024 |

The Financial & Insurance Services Group, Inc. (FISG) is now accepting sealed bids on the above mentioned vehicles at their office located in the Cabrera Center on Beach Road Garapan, Saipan.

FISG reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. Vehicle is sold "AS IS" with no Warranties, Expressed or Implied.

Deadline for bidding is on October 26, 2012.

Units are located at Cabrera Center parking lot for inspection.



TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

October 17, 2012

This is to give notice that the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission will hold a public hearing IN THE MATTER OF HW GOLDEN ISLAND HOLDINGS LTD., Individual Suitability and Qualifications of HW GOLDEN ISLAND HOLDINGS LTD., and its shareholders, officer and directors, YUNG-HSIANG LIU and KEN TZU-SEN LIN to receive a Casino Operator's License on Tinian on Monday, October 22, 2012 at 1:30pm at the Tinian Room, Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino.

/s/Donald M. Hofschneider
Acting Executive Director

FOR SALE

FINANCING AVAILABLE



**TWO-STORY, 4 BEDROOM HOUSE
IN DANDAN
50 YEARS REMAINING ON LEASE**

**WE ALSO HAVE OTHER PROPERTIES
ON SAIPAN, TINIAN, AND ROTA**

**CONTACT BANK OF SAIPAN,
LOANS DEPT. AT 235-6260**

Off The Wall

ND man sells McJordan barbecue sauce for \$10,000

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP)—A man who used to own McDonald’s restaurants in North Dakota is about \$10,000 richer after selling a 20-year-old container of McJordan barbecue sauce to a buyer in Chicago.

The sauce was used on McJordan Burgers, named for basketball icon Michael Jordan. The promotional item was sold in limited markets for a short time in the 1990s, when Jordan led the Chicago Bulls to six NBA championships.

Mort Bank, of Bismarck, saved the gallon jug of sauce after selling his McDonald’s restaurants in Bismarck-Mandan and Minot in 1996.

“It was in my basement and I would look at it occasionally,” he told The Bismarck Tribune. “I thought it would be worth something someday.”

Bank advertised the sauce on eBay, saying: “A once in a lifetime chance to own the rarest of rare Michael Jordan and McDonald’s collectible!” It sold for

\$9,995 Monday night to a buyer from Chicago whom Bank has not identified.

Bank told the Chicago Tribune that the buyer was not Jordan himself. Jordan opened a steakhouse in Chicago last year.

“I’m sure he’s a Bulls or Michael Jordan fan, and hopefully

he’s not going to put it on his ribs or his burger,” Bank told KXMB-TV of the buyer. “But it’s up to him; he can do whatever he wants with it.”

Bank said he has at least three storage units full of McDonald’s memorabilia and other collector’s items that he has

been selling on eBay for three years. He has sold items to buyers as far away as China,

Japan, Brazil and Europe, though never for as much money as the sauce garnered.

Fired ‘Gangnam Style’ lifeguards to get jobs back

EL MONTE, Calif. (AP)—Fourteen lifeguards fired last month after appearing in uniform at the city pool in a parody of “Gangnam Style,” the Korean pop music video that has been viewed hundreds of millions of time online, are getting their jobs back.

The City Council in the Southern California town of El Monte voted to rehire them pending a management review at the aquatic center, the San Gabriel Valley Tribune reported.

The lifeguards’ parody of the video by Korean pop star PSY showed them in city-issued swimsuits dancing underwater and on diving boards at the pool. The “Gangnam Style” video has spawned countless such spoofs.

City officials had said the workers violated employee con-

duct standards and prohibitions on use of city property. The lifeguards countered, saying they were off the clock when they made the video.

The controversy quickly gained attention, as the lifeguards received support from many local residents—and even from PSY.

Hundreds of people attended a City Council meeting this month to defend them. At that meeting, it was announced that a contractor had been hired to review the aquatic center’s management, policies and procedures, including the steps leading to their firing.

Mayor Andre Quintero recommended they be rehired, saying that if the lifeguards were employed, they would be more likely to cooperate with the independent review.



AP
Mort Blank holds the gallon of 1992, McDonalds, McJordan Barbecue sauce he sold for almost ten thousand dollars in Bismarck, N.D., Tuesday Oct. 16, 2012.

NY brothers wait years to claim \$5M lottery prize

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP)—Two brothers from central New York have claimed a \$5 million lottery prize for a scratch-off ticket they bought at their parents’ Syracuse store six years ago, state officials said.

Andy Ashkar, 34, of Camillus, and Nayel Ashkar, 36, of Cicero, came forward March 1, just 11 days before the top prize in the “\$500,000,000 Extravaganza” scratch-off game would have expired, New York Lottery said.

Andy Ashkar said he bought the ticket at his parents’ convenience store in Syracuse in 2006 and decided to share the winnings with his brother, officials said.

The agency said the younger brother said he waited so long to claim his prize because he was concerned the windfall could “negatively influence” his life if he didn’t plan properly before being publicly introduced as the winner. Andy Ashkar also told lottery officials that he also didn’t want the windfall to influence his engagement and subsequent marriage.

Calls to phone numbers listed for the Ashkar brothers went unanswered Wednesday morning.

Nayel Ashkar’s wife, Sara, told The Post-Standard of Syra-

cuse on Tuesday that news of the winnings was spreading fast, with family and friends calling to express their surprise and excitement.

“It’s crazy,” she said. “Hard to believe. It’s still sinking in.”

The brothers’ mother, Wasa Ashkar, said her husband, Neyef, sold the winning ticket to Andy at the couple’s Green Ale Market, but she couldn’t remember exactly when. She said she and her husband were Palestinians from Jerusalem who immigrated to the United States nearly 40 years ago and have owned the store for 12 years.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Shotgun wedding? Jeweler offers rifles with rings



NORTH LIBERTY, Iowa (AP)—Have you spent your life hunting for the perfect wife? Maybe you have met the one but are feeling gun shy? An Iowa jeweler is offering free rifles for husbands-to-be who spend at least \$1,999 on an engagement ring at his store near Iowa City. Jeweler Harold van Beek told KCRG near Cedar Rapids that he wanted to “do something for the boy who doesn’t like to

hunt for diamonds but likes to hunt for deer.” The deal at Jewelry By Harold in North Liberty starts Thursday and will run through the end of October.

Des Moines baby a numerologist’s delight

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—A dream alignment for numerologists has come true in the delivery room of a Des Moines hospital. The Des Moines Register reports that Laila Fitzgerald weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces when she was born. She came

into the world on Thursday, which, numerically speaking, was 10/11/12. She arrived, militarily speaking, at 1314, which would be 1:14 p.m. for civilians. So the numbers associated with her birth are 8-9-10-11-12-13-14. Laila’s mother, 26-year-old Katie Deremiah, of Des Moines, says she had a feeling Thursday would be the day, even though the due date was Oct. 19. Laila’s father, 26-year-old Ryan Fitzgerald, told The Register that he would buy a lottery ticket as soon as he left the hospital.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-005
SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF OFFICE SUPPLIES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of office supplies for CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Packet may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card, in the amount of \$50.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Supply & Delivery of Office Supplies” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 21, 2012**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email in PDF format, to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Purchasing Administrative Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Proposal will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.



A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **October 25, 2012 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this bid must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 30, 2012** to Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Assistant via email-christie.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-007
AUTOMOBILE RENTAL SERVICES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for Automobile Rental Services on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Packet may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card, in the amount of \$50.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Automobile Rental Services” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 19, 2012**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email in PDF format, to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Purchasing Administrative Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Proposal will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **October 26, 2012 at 1:00 PM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this bid must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 29, 2012** to Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Assistant via email-christie.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director



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MANAGER, MORTGAGE CREDIT DIVISION

Opening Date: October 22, 2012 Closing Date: November 9, 2012

Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950

Salary: PL 35-01 thru 12 \$28,807.51 - \$49,266.21 per annum – Commensurate with education, training and experience.

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up during working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit a cover letter together with the NMHC Employment Application Form AND required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original cover letter, application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, November 9, 2012 **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than November 9, 2012, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn S. Kaipat, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to jskaipat@nmhc.gov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**
Chairwoman of the Board

 NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

Science & Technology

Analysts and PC industry are cool on Windows 8

By **PETER SVENSSON**
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—While Microsoft is touting next week's launch of Windows 8 as the savior of the computer industry, PC makers and analysts are increasingly skeptical that the new operating system will lure consumers away from tablets and smartphones.

Even Intel Corp., which makes the processors at the heart of 80 percent of personal computers, doubts that Windows 8 will have a big impact on sales. CEO Paul Otellini said this week that he's "very excited" about the new operating system but expects the usual holiday bounce in PC sales to be half of what it usually is. Otellini suggested that PC makers are being cautious about building big stocks of Windows 8 PCs.

"We haven't had a chance to really judge how consumers will embrace this in the PC space or not," Otellini said on a conference call with reporters and analysts.

Research firm IHS iSuppli expects the industry to ship 349 million PCs this year, down 1 percent from last year's all-time high. Although small, the decline would



In this Wednesday, Feb. 29, 2012, file photo, Steven Sinofsky, president of Windows and Windows Live attends the Windows 8 Consumer Preview presentation during a press conference at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Spain.

be the first since 2001.

In the U.S., a mature market where consumers are gobbling up tablets, PC sales have already been declining for two years.

Meanwhile, Apple has been doubling sales of iPad tablets every year since the first model was introduced in 2010. In the April to June period, Apple shipped 17 million iPads, while Hewlett-Packard Co., then the world's largest maker of PCs, shipped 13.6 million PCs, according to Gartner analysts.

Smartphones, which were a niche market before the 2007 launch of the iPhone, outsold PCs last year, even though PC sales were at a record high. Some 488 million smartphones were sold in 2011, according to research firm Canalsys.

The PC market is still big, Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer told the Seattle Times last month, "and Windows 8 will propel that volume."

Windows 8 is a response to the popularity of tablets. It tosses

out many Windows conventions in favor of a radical new look that's designed to be easy to use on a touch screen. With Windows 8, PC makers are releasing a slew of laptops that double as tablets, either with detachable screens or with screens that fold down over the keyboard.

But Citigroup analyst Joe Yoo is even more pessimistic than Intel that Windows 8 will spur a turnaround in sales of desktop and laptop computers. It could turn out to be a "non-event" in terms of getting people to buy PCs, he said.

Apple schedules date for new event; smaller iPad expected

By **JEREMY C. OWENS**
SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS

Apple sent out a media invitation Tuesday to an Oct. 23 event expected to be the introduction of a new, smaller iPad to compete with Amazon's Kindle Fire and Google's Nexus 7.

The invitation, brightly colored with the top of an Apple logo, simply says, "We've got a little more to show you."

The event will be held in downtown San Jose, Calif., at the historic California Theatre, a departure from recent events, mostly held in San Francisco or at the tech titan's Cupertino, Calif., headquarters. Apple last introduced a new product at the California Theatre in 2005, when late Apple co-founder Steve Jobs showed off the company's video iPod; the iPod U2 Special Edition was also introduced there in 2004.

A smaller and less-expensive iPad would be a logical step by the company to thwart sales of similar tablets by Google, Microsoft and Amazon. Rumors have focused on a screen size of about 7.85 inches diagonally, notably smaller than the standard iPad's 9.7-inch screen.

Devices of that size are easier

to carry in a purse or suit pocket and cost around \$200, far more affordable than the latest version of the iPad, which starts at \$499. An "iPad Mini" would allow Apple to protect its retail flank, effectively corralling off that lower price point from its rivals.

Analyst Shaw Wu with Sterne Agee told Bloomberg News last week that while "these competitors have a tough enough time competing against the 10-inch iPad," a smaller less expensive iPad Mini "will make the competition even tougher. It tells you how hard it is to beat Apple. These other companies have to either lose money or break even on these products."

Several news outlets, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *Bloomberg News* and Reuters, reported earlier this month that Apple has already begun production of the device. Other reports have said that Apple will also introduce a 13-inch MacBook Pro with Apple's "retina" display, smaller than the current 15-inch model.

Jobs famously denounced a smaller iPad model as late as 2010, when he said "One naturally thinks that a 7-inch screen would offer 70 percent of the benefits of a 10-inch screen."

SOUND ADVICE

More on plasma TVs; noise-canceling headphones

By **DON LINDICH**
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q. I have seen your columns regarding plasma TVs and every one has been very positive. I am thinking of getting a Panasonic plasma but my daughter has a friend who works in a TV repair shop and he said that plasmas do not last very long, mentioning 5 years or so as to the screen life. I want a TV that will last longer than 5 years. We had an RCA console TV that lasted for over 22 years and I would really like my next TV to last at least 10-15 years.—R.M., Elk River, Minn.

A. Many early plasma TVs did have what seemed to be a limited lifespan, and about 10 years ago a friend who had a repair shop showed me a room full of dead plasma TVs. This stuck in my mind and for a while I did not recommend them in this column. Things have changed dramatically since then and it turned me from a skeptic to an evangelist for plasma technology.

Panasonic 1080p plasma panels are rated to go to half brightness after 30 years of watching for 8 hours per day. In terms of personal experience, in my circle of immediate family and close friends we have had better luck with plasma. Above 42-inch screen size, between us we have had six plasmas (one Samsung, one Hitachi, one LG, and three Panasonics) and one LCD (Toshiba) as our primary or bedroom television. All the plasmas have been flawless and the Samsung is almost six years old and still going strong. The only TV to fail was the LCD set, which, sadly, I purchased for my parents for Christmas in 2007 and was the most expensive of the lot. It only lasted 2.5 years. I replaced it with a Panasonic plasma and they like it much better.

This is just one anecdotal example, but despite

LCD supposedly being more reliable it wasn't in this case here. I recommend buying what you want, regardless of the technology. Both plasma and LCD are extremely reliable and it should not be an issue

■ ■ ■

Q. My daughter will be attending college next year. Currently she uses earbuds and would like to get a pair of headphones, perhaps noise-canceling headphones so she won't easily hear noises as she studies. My older daughter bought \$350 Bose headphones and I think that was too much money. She really likes them because she does not hear other noisy people in the dorm.

We don't really have a budget, but wonder whether it is possible to get a good pair of noise-canceling headphones for \$100-200. Do you have any suggestions?—K.M., Pleasanton, Calif.

A. I have always had great success recommending Audio-Technica headphones and unlike Bose products they can be found online at significant savings from suggested retail prices. They are very competitive if sold at the list price, but when you take the discounts into account they are phenomenal bargains.

The Audio Technica ATH-ANC7B Active Noise-Canceling Closed-Back Headphones have a suggested retail price of \$219.95 but can be purchased online for only \$114.95. In over 505 reviews on Amazon they have amassed a solid 4-star rating and many reviewers preferred them over the \$300-plus Bose products. For under \$115 I don't think you can go wrong.

Contact Don Lindich at www.soundadvice-blog.com and use the "submit question" link on that site.

The Family of Ana Blossom Hocog Inos-Macduff

*Wishes to thank each of you
during our time of need.*

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece,
If so we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As any friend could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all,
Just thought of us on that day.*

*Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much
whatever the part.*

Your kind expressions of love have strengthened our faith, helped us accept the things we could not change, and reaffirmed the fact that others share our loss.

We have been blessed with prayers, cards, visits, telephone calls and other gestures of thoughtfulness.

God Bless Each Of You

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| | | | |
|--|------|------|------|
| Paranormal Activity 4 | | | |
| Friday | 4:05 | 7:05 | 9:35 |
| Saturday | 1:05 | 4:05 | 7:05 |
| Sunday | 1:05 | 4:05 | 7:05 |
| Monday thru Thursday | 4:05 | 7:05 | |
| Cast: Stephen Dunham, Alexondra Lee Genre: Horror • Rated R | | | |

Synopsis

The Paranormal Activity film series continues with this fourth entry from Paramount Pictures and returning directors of the previous film, Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

| | | | |
|--|------|------|------|
| Argo | | | |
| Friday | 4:15 | 7:15 | 9:45 |
| Saturday | 1:15 | 4:15 | 7:15 |
| Sunday | 1:15 | 4:15 | 7:15 |
| Monday thru Thursday | 4:15 | 7:15 | |
| Cast: Ben Affleck, Alan Arkin, John Goodman Genre: Thriller • Rated R | | | |

Synopsis

A CIA agent (Ben Affleck) creates a fake Hollywood production in order to fool Iranian terrorists into releasing a group of U.S. Diplomats in this Warner Bros. docudrama based on the 1979 Tehran hostage crisis. Affleck directs from a script by Chris Terrio, with George Clooney handling producing duties. Alan Arkin, John Goodman, and Bryan Cranston co-star.

| | | | |
|---|------|------|------|
| Here Comes The Boom | | | |
| Friday | 4:00 | 7:00 | 9:30 |
| Saturday | 1:00 | 4:00 | 7:00 |
| Sunday | 1:00 | 4:00 | 7:00 |
| Monday thru Thursday | 4:00 | 7:00 | |
| Cast: Kevin James, Henry Winkler, Salma Hayek Genre: Comedy • Rated PG | | | |

| | | | |
|--|------|------|-------|
| Sinister | | | |
| Friday | 4:30 | 7:30 | 10:00 |
| Saturday | 1:30 | 4:30 | 7:30 |
| Sunday | 1:30 | 4:30 | 7:30 |
| Monday thru Thursday | 4:30 | 7:30 | |
| Cast: Ethan Hawke, James Ransone, Vincent D'Onofrio Genre: Horror • Rated R | | | |

| | | | |
|--|------|------|------|
| Taken 2 | | | |
| Friday | 4:10 | 7:10 | 9:40 |
| Saturday | 1:10 | 4:10 | 7:10 |
| Sunday | 1:10 | 4:10 | 7:10 |
| Monday thru Thursday | 4:10 | 7:10 | |
| Cast: Liam Neeson, Maggie Grace, Famke Janssen Genre: Thriller • Rated PG13 | | | |

| | | | |
|--|------|------|------|
| Pitch Perfect | | | |
| Friday | 4:20 | 7:20 | 9:55 |
| Saturday | 1:20 | 4:20 | 7:20 |
| Sunday | 1:20 | 4:20 | 7:20 |
| Monday thru Thursday | 4:20 | 7:20 | |
| Cast: Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin, Ben Platt Genre: Comedy • Rated PG13 | | | |

| | | | |
|--|------|------|------|
| Hotel Transylvania 3D | | | |
| Friday | 7:25 | 9:50 | |
| Saturday | 1:25 | 7:25 | 9:50 |
| Sunday | 1:25 | 7:25 | |
| Monday thru Thursday | 7:25 | | |
| Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG | | | |

| | | | |
|--|------|--|--|
| Hotel Transylvania 2D | | | |
| Friday | 4:25 | | |
| Saturday | 4:25 | | |
| Sunday | 4:25 | | |
| Monday thru Thursday | 4:25 | | |
| Cast: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Kevin James Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG | | | |

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Life & Style

Big Bird costumes hot sellers for Halloween

NEW YORK (AP)—Big Bird, the star of the U.S. presidential debates, is also the outstanding costume character for Halloween.

The Yellow One is flying off the shelves after Mitt Romney's threat to do away with government support for PBS. President Barack Obama kept the Halloween dream alive Tuesday night when he brought up the bird again during their second debate.

At 6 feet (1.8 meters), Angela Betancourt volunteered for Big Bird duty among a group of friends riffing on Sesame Street for a couple of Halloween parties and a meander along Lincoln Road in Miami Beach. She'll likely carry a suitcase as she passes out the popular kid character's resume.

"I grew up on Sesame Street and I think that PBS deserves all the funds it can get," said Betancourt, 30. "We all feel the same way."

Halloweencostumes.com sold out of several takes on Big Bird almost overnight after Romney's remark during the first presidential debate Oct. 3, said a company spokesman, Marlon Heimerl.

"In the past this hasn't been a very popular costume, so when Big Bird flew the coop in such high numbers, it was definitely a big surprise," said Heimerl, who would not provide specific sales figures.

Disguise Inc., Sesame Work-



This Aug. 30, 2009 file photo shows Big Bird, of the children's television show Sesame Street, in Los Angeles. AP

shop's official costume maker, said interest is up among the thousands of retailers it services. The sellers of unlicensed Big Bird, especially sexed-up versions, beware.

"The only costumes authorized by Sesame Workshop are with our licensee, Disguise, and we are working with our legal team on having the others removed from the market," said Ellen Lewis, a spokeswoman from over there on Sesame Street.

Betancourt went for sanctioned, sassy Big Bird in a yel-

low, flapper-style feathered dress and a dainty head piece. Shannon Ziegler of suburban Detroit will be Big Birdesque in a sexier mini with mesh cutouts, ringed thigh-highs and a fluffy hat that has google eyes.

Ziegler hadn't decided between a sign that reads: "Big Bird for President" or one imploring: "Don't Use Me." An American flag may also be involved.

"When I saw that costume," said the 27-year-old Ziegler, "I thought, how perfect is that?"

For the record, Ziegler's a

Republican who said she'll probably vote for Romney.

"Big Bird is not getting fired," she said. "Big Bird is big and strong and he will be able to stand his ground. I think that Sesame Street will be strong no matter what."

Kimberly Wick, vice president of Costume World based in Deerfield Beach, Florida, also saw sleepy seller Big Bird become a hot seller overnight. The company sells and rents costumes of all kinds and has four stores around the country.

Royal wedding gives Luxembourg turn in spotlight

LUXEMBOURG (AP)—The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg doesn't get a lot of turns in the spotlight.

It's an independent country tinier than Rhode Island, the smallest U.S. state, and it would fit inside Germany, its neighbor to the east, 138 times with room to spare. It won no medals at the 2012 London Olympics; its best performance ever was one lone medal in the 1952 Helsinki Games, a gold in the men's 1,500 meters.

But this week is Luxembourg's turn to shine. Prince Guillaume, the heir to the throne—the grand duke-to-be—will marry Belgian Countess Stephanie de Lannoy. It will be a two-day affair, including fireworks, concerts, a gala dinner at the grand ducal palace, and two marriages between the betrothed—a civil wedding Friday afternoon and a religious ceremony Saturday morning.

A glittering array of European royalty has been invited. The guest list for the religious ceremony includes kings, queens, princes and princesses from European countries including, among others, Belgium, Norway, Sweden, Lichtenstein, Denmark, the Netherlands, Romania and Britain, which is sending Prince Edward, Queen

Elizabeth's youngest child, and his wife, Sophie.

Non-European royalty plan to attend, as well, from Morocco, Japan and Jordan and elsewhere.

With all those royals coming to Luxembourg, can international attention be far behind?

"It's good for Luxembourg," said Nadine Chenet, a 46-year-old street cleaner who was picking up cigarette butts with pincers in front of the grand ducal palace. "Many people will come now."

Besides, she just plain likes the royal family, she said: They give a good impression of the country.

That's a sentiment common in Luxembourg. To all appearances, the bride and groom are a lovely couple. He is 30, with dark hair and an immaculate beard. She is 28, blonde and smiling. In public appearances, including at the London Olympics, they have appeared besotted with each other.

According to biographies distributed by the royal court, each has an array of interests befitting those who are to the manner born.

Guillaume speaks four languages, has studied international politics, is a lieutenant colonel in the Luxembourg army (a force of 900 soldiers), and has been

engaged in humanitarian work in other countries, including Nepal. The duchess-to-be has studied the influence of German romanticism on Russian romanticism, plays piano and violin, swims, skis, and says she reads three books at a time.

In the language department, she already speaks French and German—two of Luxembourg's three official languages—and, perhaps more importantly, is studying the third, which is called Luxembourgish. She plans to renounce her Belgian citizenship in order to become, eventually, Luxembourg's grand duchess.

Luxembourg is a linguistically complicated country, a reflection of its complicated past. It began as a Roman fortress. It has, at one time or another, fallen under the control of Spain, France and Austria. In 1839, it gained its independence from the Netherlands, but lost more than half its territory to Belgium, which now has a province of the same name. In the 20th century, Germany swept through Luxembourg twice despite its protestations of neutrality.

Luxembourgish is related to German, but it is primarily a spoken language. In the country's schools, elementary students take all their classes in German. When

students reach their teens, gradually all classes are converted to French. And English is studied the entire time.

But the language dearest to their hearts is Luxembourgish. As 71-year-old retired engineer Rene Ries—a typical Luxembourger, with a French first name and a German last name—said, Luxembourgish is generally spoken in the home. When there is a complaint, the police file their reports in German. Then the lawyers litigate the case in French.

Asked in which language he felt most comfortable, Ries replied without hesitation that it was Luxembourgish. But he admitted he had trouble writing it. Under duress, he could write his daughter a postcard, he said, but the language is most commonly spoken, not written.

Luxembourg, an important financial center and home to the world's largest steel manufacturer, continues to prosper despite Europe's economic trouble. The country has the second-highest gross domestic product per capita in the world, more than \$80,000—though its population of about 510,000 people is still smarting from having lost the No. 1 spot to Qatar. The capital city has 80,000 inhabitants and 120,000 jobs.

Tom Hanks honored at Elie Wiesel Foundation gala

NEW YORK (AP)—After Tom Hanks found out he was being honored by the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity at the New York Public Library, he remembered he owed a couple of books.

"I've got to turn them in from 1977," Hanks said on the red carpet before going into the gala event.

Hanks, accompanied by his wife Rita Wilson, joked that when he got the call, he responded, "No, this is the Hanks house," followed by "really" and "why?"

Rooted in the memory of the Holocaust, the foundation's mission is combating indifference, intolerance and injustice through international dialogue.

Hanks said he was stunned by the award, and added while he's fortunate he gets to make movies, at the end of the day it's more about making the world a better place.



Honoree Tom Hanks, left, Rita Wilson and Elie Wiesel attend The Elie Wiesel Foundation For Humanity's Arts for Humanity Gala on Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012 in New York.

Megan Fox announces birth of baby boy on Facebook

NEW YORK (AP)—Megan Fox has taken to social media to announce the birth of her baby boy.

The "Transformers" actress wrote on her Facebook profile on Wednesday that she and husband Brian Austin Green welcomed a son named Noah Shannon Green on September 27. She describes him as "healthy, happy and perfect." She goes on to say she and Green are "humbled" to be "the parents of this beautiful soul."

Fox and Green were married in 2010. This is their first child together.



They began dating in 2004 when Green appeared on the TV show "Hope & Faith," on which Fox had a supporting role.

Green has a son named Kasius from a previous relationship with actress Vanessa Marcil.

This Sept. 25, 2010 file photo shows American actress Megan Fox posing with her husband Brian Austin Green after watching the presentation of the Emporio Armani Spring-Summer 2011 fashion collection, during the fashion week in Milan, Italy.

Flavor Flav arrested in Las Vegas domestic case

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Entertainer Flavor Flav threw his fiancée to the floor twice and grabbed two knives as he chased and threatened to kill her 17-year-old son during an argument Wednesday at their home in Las Vegas, a police report states.

The former rapper, hip-hop and reality TV star, whose legal name is William Jonathan Drayton Jr., cut his finger with one of the knives before police arrived and arrested him about 3:30 a.m., according to the report.

Drayton, 53, was jailed on \$23,000 bail pending an initial court appearance Thursday on a felony charge of assault with a deadly weapon and a misde-

meanor count of battery-domestic violence. He could face up to six years in prison on the assault charge if convicted.

His girlfriend of eight years, Elizabeth Trujillo, 39, told police her earring was ripped out during the fracas, which she said stemmed from an argument over infidelity. Police did not report that she sought medical treatment. The teen wasn't injured.

Attempts to reach Trujillo by telephone were not immediately successful.

Trujillo told police her son intervened after Drayton grabbed her and threw her to the ground. The teen wrestled with Drayton before Drayton grabbed two large

knives and chased him through the living room, according to the police report.

The teen told police he ran to his sister's upstairs bedroom, where he said Drayton kicked in the door and threatened him while still holding both knives.

Drayton confirmed to the arresting officer that he scuffled with Trujillo and her son but denied chasing or threatening the teen, the report states.

It was not immediately clear if Drayton had a lawyer.

Drayton, whose public persona includes wearing an oversized

clock on his chest, was an original member of the politically and socially militant rap group Public Enemy in the 1980s and '90s.

In recent years he has starred in several reality TV series and lent his name and recipes to short-lived chicken and soul food restaurants in Clinton,

Iowa, and Las Vegas. He has a criminal history that includes arrests and convictions on traffic infractions, a month in jail for assaulting his then-girlfriend in 1991, and three months in prison for shooting at a neighbor in New York in 1993.



Flav

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Yo-Yo Ma to continue work at Chicago Symphony

CHICAGO (AP)—Famed cellist Yo-Yo Ma will stay on as a creative consultant at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Orchestra officials said Wednesday that Ma is extending his contract through June 2015. Ma accepted a three-year appointment to the newly created position at the symphony in January 2010. He has spent much of his time in Chicago working with the symphony's educational programs. The Citizen Musician initiative has had Ma perform in Chicago public schools and speak with students. Ma attended an event earlier this week at Perez

Elementary School in Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood with famed soprano Renee Fleming. The creative consultancy also tasks Ma with leading chamber music residencies at the orchestra, advising on programming and performing with the symphony.

Debbie Reynolds goes home from hospital

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A publicist says Debbie Reynolds is home recuperating after a brief hospitalization. The "Singin' in the Rain" star needed medical attention last week in Los Angeles after suffering a bad reaction to some medication. Publicist

Kevin Sasaki said Wednesday that Reynolds has been home for a couple of days and is feeling better but still canceling her appearances for the rest of the year. The 80-year-old singer and actress, who keeps a busy touring schedule, hopes to be in good enough shape to ride on the Pet Care Foundation's float in the Rose Parade on New Year's Day.

Nielsen: 65.6 million watch second debate

NEW YORK (AP)—With an estimated 65.6 million viewers, the television audience for the second presidential debate between President Barack Obama and Republi-

can Mitt Romney was smaller than the first—but only slightly. The Nielsen company said 67 million people watched the first debate a week earlier. Tuesday's town hall style debate at Hofstra University was still seen by more than any of Obama's three debates with John McCain in 2008, and had more viewers than any second presidential debate since 1992. It was shown live on 10 television networks, with the Spanish-speaking Univision and Telemundo airing it on tape delay. The audience was likely larger when viewing on tablets and other computers is considered, but Nielsen does not have those measurements.

Woman's healthy eating habits may have taken unhealthy turn

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I have recently developed what I consider to be a very healthy lifestyle. I exercise, eat lots of fruits and vegetables and mostly whole foods.

My problem is I think I may be becoming obsessed. It has become harder and harder to eat away from home. I constantly plan what I'm going to eat next. I'm still happy, but too much of my time is being spent on this.

Apparently, there's a disorder similar to anorexia known as orthorexia. It's the psychological obsession with eating healthy. I don't think I could be classified as an extreme case, but what should I do before I become one?

OBSSESSED IN BOSTON



Dear Abby

DEAR OBSESSED: As with any obsessive disorder, the first step is realizing and admitting you may have one. Then discuss it with your physician and ask for a referral to a psychologist who specializes in eating disorders.

This is not to say that you have a disorder—but because more and more of your time is being devoted to thoughts of food, it would be a good idea to check. Too much of a good thing can be harmful if it is taken too far.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am 23 and have one child. I have been married for three years, and my husband has recently become physically abusive. He was prosecuted for his actions and pleaded guilty, but he still blames me entirely for the scenario and refuses to accept any responsibility.

I fear for the safety of myself and my daughter every day, and I want to leave him for good. Many of the shelters I have called require that I quit my job, which is something I feel is counterintuitive to establishing a life on my own, so I refuse. That said, I don't make much money, and the money I do make goes toward paying the fine my husband incurred for harming me.

Am I aiming too high? I feel the only way to break free from him entirely is to quit my job, but I don't want to have to resort to this. What would you advise?

CONFLICTED OUT WEST

DEAR CONFLICTED: I would advise you to take your child and get out of there before the next episode of domestic violence. And, if you truly want to break free entirely from your abuser, that you follow TO THE LETTER the instructions you receive from the people at the domestic violence shelter. And one more thing: Let the person who incurred the fine pay it himself!

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have a question about office microwave etiquette. I work in a building with one kitchen for 40 people. Often there is a wait to use the microwave around lunchtime. Recently I needed to use it and found a warm packaged meal in there, and no owner around. I waited five minutes and came back. It was still there as if it had been forgotten.

I decided to place it on the counter with a napkin covering it so I could use the microwave. When I was finished, no one appeared to claim it, so I put it back in and went on my way.

Did I do the right thing? There was no way to know whose meal it was. What's proper in this situation? Should I have just waited?

HUNGRY IN ITHACA, N.Y.

DEAR HUNGRY: You handled the situation appropriately. However, had it been me, I would have left the item on the counter so it wouldn't be touched by the other 38 hungry people in your office who also needed to use the microwave.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

HELLO, COUNTY LIBRARY? YES. DO YOU HAVE ANY BOOKS ON WHY GIRLS ARE SO WEIRD?

THAT'S WHAT I SAID. OR YOU MIGHT ALSO TRY LOOKING UNDER "OBNOXIOUS."

ARE YOU SERIOUS? YOU MEAN THERE'S NO RESEARCH ON THIS AT ALL??

I'LL BET THE LIBRARY JUST DOESN'T WANT ANYONE TO KNOW.

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

SIGH

SIGH

THEY MUST BE THINKING ABOUT CUPCAKES, TOO

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHO WAS THAT? LANCE, HE WANTED TO BORROW GUMBO AND NICK.

BORROW THEM? FOR WHAT? HE WANTED TO TAKE THEM TO THE PARK.

HUH? THE TWO GREATEST WOMEN MAGNETS: BABIES AND PUPPIES.

LANCE NEEDS HELP. THAT'S THE POINT HE TRIED TO MAKE TO ME.

LET'S SEE. I'VE GOT MY STAR TREK COSTUME, LATEX SPOCK EARS, PHASER WITH SIX REALISTIC SOUND EFFECTS.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I SHOULD GET?

A LIFE.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "— la-la!" wear

4 Blue hue

8 Docket entry

12 Part of TGIF

13 Sitarist's rendition

14 Fairy tale preposition

15 What old soldiers do

17 Actress Gilpin

18 Sea flock

19 Packaged

20 Missouri river

22 One-on-one fight

24 Moistens in the morn

25 Clingy crustacean

29 Narc's org.

30 Sightless

31 Melody

32 Small telescope

34 On the briny

35 July birthstone

36 Ballet

37 Hiawatha's carrier

40 Antitoxins

41 Sandwich

42 Shake-speare in-law

46 Historic name in TV

47 Reed instrument

48 Time of your life?

49 Ordered

50 Stare stupidly

51 Thither

DOWN

1 Vacationing

2 Man-mouse link

3 Retreat

4 Stretch, as the neck

5 Deviates off course

6 Khan title

7 Yea canceler

8 Dome

9 Pinnacle

10 Aching

11 Oklahoma city

16 Work units

19 Flex

20 Probability

21 Leak slowly

22 "Loves me (not)" flower

23 Grecian vessels

25 Spill the beans

26 Gilligan, notably

27 Stead

28 Historic periods

30 Sad

33 Rut

34 Emanation

36 Giggly sound

37 Barber-shop need

38 Geometry calculation

39 Jock's anti-thesis

40 Halt

42 Swine

43 "The — Daba Honey-moon"

44 Past

45 Longing

Solution time: 25 mins.

LAST TSP ENOS
AMIR RIO
AKIMBO TRIO
STRAY HEM TIRK
USER FOR ASEAR
RAM SAD OCTET
FRANKCAPRA
SUIT REDIAL
MATT ONO EDGY
ABET IOU MORN
GARY DVD ELAN

Yesterday's answer 10-19

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chris Kattan, 42; Jon Favreau, 46; Ty Pennington, 48; John Lithgow, 67.

Happy Birthday: Don't lose sight of any opportunity big or small. Be ready, willing and able to jump in and get involved. Taking action will be your ticket to success. Although you will not always get along with everyone you deal with, you must stand behind your convictions and beliefs in order to reach your goals. Your numbers are 8, 12, 22, 28, 30, 38, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Play to win. Talks will lead to solutions and your hands-on approach to whatever comes your way will be rewarded. You will find yourself in a position to make significant and triumphant improvements. Seize the moment and the opportunity. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A problem with a relationship must be dealt with practically. Do not let your emotions cause you to make a costly mistake, leaving you in a vulnerable position. Love, romance and socializing should be welcomed and given top priority. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Generosity and excess will be your downfall. Do your best to focus on honing your skills or looking for a better position. Striving to get ahead instead of overindulging or taking on projects that won't pay the bills will be a must. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Make plans to socialize or network with people who may be able to help you improve your position. Love is in the stars and building a stronger relationship with someone who contributes to your goals will help secure a better future. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take action. Talking about what you want to do will solve nothing. You must be willing to go the distance if you want to gain credibility. Let your heart lead the way. Sincerity will be key when dealing with relatives, peers or your lover. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Speak your mind, but avoid getting into an emotional argument that leads to a no-win situation. Focus on being dedicated and loyal. Avoid impulsive purchases or decisions that can contractually bind you. Practicality will be required. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Avoid making last-minute changes because of what someone else does. Stick to your game plan and rely on your experience and past friends, colleagues or partners to fill in whatever gap is missing. Your resilience will leave a good impression. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep your feet planted firmly on the ground, and protect what you have worked so hard to acquire. Innovative ideas will come to you that will help turn a situation that appears grim into a positive turn of events. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let passion and emotional matters hold you back. Put your energy into building a better domestic life by spending time with the people you feel can contribute the most to your future achievements and happiness. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your communication with friends, relatives and superiors cordial if you want to get your way. Positive changes to your position will develop if you show dedication and are willing to adapt quickly to what's offered. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Strive for perfection and pick up skills that will help you advance. Showing greater enthusiasm and helping without being asked will make a difference to the outcome of a new venture. Greater demands will also bring you greater pleasure. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If possible, close a deal, settlement or pending legal matter without getting into a scuffle. You will be forced to compromise, but in the end, it will benefit you. Love is within reach, but demands will make you revise your plans. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are energetic, imaginative and strive to reach your goals with relentless courage.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

10/19

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Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 6 |
| 9 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| 7 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 9 |
| 2 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 5 |
| 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 1 |
| 6 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| 5 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 8 |
| 1 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 4 |

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE AMALFI COAST Solution: 13 letters

ACRYAVREWOTOWNS
NLOALTRAMONTIRA
TIMNVASCIMARECL
IFAACETARACPIIE
QFNT®ALIPDARMIR
USTU®PDLAPOOAN
ENIR®RREONNMIFO
MECA®AOEICUTEUT
EDHLOIJMEMOTTTRA
RRUESAFLSCALAO
AARMINLRI SURVRR
LGCOTOVERELOIEA
DMHNALLLEVONAENN
BAYSNOCELLEDWAI
DUOMOTNERROSSRE

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Antique, Atrani, Bays, Ceramics, Cetara, Church, Cliffs, Conca, Craft, Dei Marini, Dome, Duomo, Emerald, Fiord, Furore, Gardens, Italy, Lemons, Limoncello, Minori, Natural, Nocelle, Novella, Paper, Pasta, Pier, Positano, Praiano, Raito, Ravello, Roads, Romantic, Salerno, Scala, Sorrento, Tovere, Tower, Towns, Tramonti, Tuna, Views

Yesterday's Answer: Pampered

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 36 is available for \$4.99. It's the biggest word puzzle ever! Includes 1000 words, 1000 puzzles, and 1000 solutions. All the words and puzzles are new! It's a great gift for word lovers. Order today! www.wonderword.com

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$450-\$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

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Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. \$550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| BANK OF SAIPAN, INC., | CIVIL |
| Plaintiff, | CASE |
| | NO. |
| vs. | 12-0042 |
| MA. CAROLINE | SUMMONS |
| GARON, | |
| Defendant. | |

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file with the Superior Court any Answer you wish to make to the Complaint in this matter, a copy of which may be obtained at the law office below or the Superior Court, **within twenty-one (21) days** after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your Answer to the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger whose address is Second Floor, D'Torres Building, Garapan, P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your Answer.

Your Answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By Order of the above Court:

DATED September 27, 2012

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

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NUTESE
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CLOSING DATE: 10-31-2012
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Is hiring a part-time Assistant Advocate who will provide all the necessary administrative and staff support to the general organizational operations as well as direct services to victims of sexual assault and other assigned tasks.

Interested applicants can request a complete job description and application form at keiko.odashiro@gmail.com

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REGISTERED NURSE (1 POSITION)

- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program.
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
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- English language Skills - Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
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- Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN) - Preferred
- In-service train with Baxter phoenix machine.
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system.

Interested applicants must submit applications or resume to **St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.,** at Chalan Kiya, Saipan.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

| ADS | (PRINT) | COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|------------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| • 3-Liner | \$15 | \$27 |
| • 5-Liner | \$24 | \$39 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | \$24 | \$42 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | \$36 | \$57 |

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Beltran sub boosts Cardinals in Game 3



ST. LOUIS (AP)—Matt Carpenter always tries to stay ready, keeping an assortment of gloves nearby. That's his job.

The St. Louis Cardinals' utilityman took on a new role in Game 3 of the NL championship series: game-changer.

Carpenter hit a two-run homer after subbing for Carlos Beltran and the Cardinals chased Matt Cain before a 3 1/2-hour rain delay in the seventh inning of a 3-1 victory over the San Francisco Giants on Wednesday night for a 2-1 series lead.

"It was definitely a surprise," Carpenter said. "I didn't even realize Carlos had hurt himself, there was really no thought process."

"I was in the game before I had time to think about it," he said.

Beltran strained his left knee running out a double-play ball in the first inning and the Cardinals said he was day to day. He's had issues off and on with the knee throughout the season, but played in 151 games and had 619 at-bats, his most since 2008.

Kyle Lohse worked around a season-worst five walks in 5 2-3 innings. Mitchell Boggs struck out Hunter Pence and Brandon Belt with two on to end the seventh. Jason Motte earned the first two-inning save of his career to reward what remained of a sellout crowd of 45,850 that stuck around—perhaps a third—for a game that lasted 3 hours, 2 minutes, about a half-

hour shorter than the delay.

"They said if we didn't score I was going to go out there. I was in the clubhouse running around, I've never really had to sit around like that," Motte said. "It was probably the most nervous I've ever been."

Giants second baseman Marco Scutaro had two hits and a clean game in the field, two days after Matt Holliday rammed him breaking up a double play. Manager Bruce Bochy had said there would be no retaliation, and Game 3 was collision-free.

"I'm sure he was gutting it out," Bochy said of Scutaro. "He was determined to play and made a pretty good recovery."

Bochy said Scutaro made the right play going to first on a run-scoring groundout by Shane Robinson that made it 3-1 in the seventh.

"Well, I don't think he had a play at home. It would have been close," Bochy said. "You can't have a better or smarter second baseman than Marco."

The big winners in a delay that featured about a half-hour without rain while officials awaited a second, smaller front: Beer vendors, by a single out. Alcohol sales are cut off after the seventh inning in all stadiums.

Cain lost for the second time this postseason, giving up three runs on five hits in 6 1-3 innings. The Giants, who entered the game batting just .217 in the postseason, were 0 for 7 with runners in scoring position.

Pence, the Giants' fifth-place hitter, also grounded into a

double play with runners on first and third in the third and grounded into a force play with a man on to end the fifth.

"I'm the goat tonight," Pence said. "I just didn't do the job done."

The Cardinals snapped the Giants' five-game road winning streak in the postseason, three of them this year. Game 4 is in St. Louis on Thursday night, with Adam Wainwright pitching for the Cardinals. Tim Lincecum will start for the Giants.

"He's a guy we want out there. He's been throwing the ball well," Bochy said. "We've got to bounce back."

Bochy said lefty Barry Zito will pitch Game 5 against Lance Lynn, leaving lefty Madison Bumgarner out of the mix for now.

"I think we feel that it's time to give Madison a little break," Bochy said.

Carpenter followed Jon Jay's two-out single with a homer off Cain in his first at-bat of the NLCS.

Beltran is batting .400 in the postseason with three homers and six RBIs, but Carpenter had big numbers against Cain. He was 4 for 4 for his career against Cain, four singles.

"Really, there's no explanation," Carpenter said. "He's one of the best in the game, obviously, I think we all know that."

Cain was ahead 0-2 in the count and Carpenter worked it back to 2-2 before jumping on a hanging slider.

"I try to grind out those at-bats and fight," Carpenter said. "I was in my two-strike mode and I got



St. Louis Cardinals relief pitcher Jason Motte (30) works during the ninth inning of Game 3 of baseball's National League championship series against the San Francisco Giants, Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, in St. Louis. The Cardinals won, 3-1.

Game 4 of ALCS postponed by threat of rain

DETROIT (AP)—One win from the World Series. Rainy or not, the Detroit Tigers will have to wait.

Game 4 of the AL championship series between the Tigers and New York Yankees was postponed because of a stormy forecast Wednesday night—although Comerica Park was still dry when the decision was made.

"They kept saying it was going to come and it never came," Tigers pitcher Max Scherzer said. "So go figure."

About an hour later, however, heavy rain started to fall, soaking the tarp that was placed on the infield before the postponement.

With the Tigers seeking a sweep in the best-of-seven series, Game 4 was rescheduled for Thursday at 4:07 p.m. New York will send ace CC Sabathia to the mound against Scherzer. The Tigers will have lefty Phil Coke, who saved Games 2 and 3, available after a day of rest.

Game 5, if necessary, would be Friday in Detroit.

Under the original schedule, there was a good chance Sabathia would pitch a potential Game 7 on three days' rest if the Yankees rallied in the se-

ries. Now, he might be limited to one start—and New York might need to win four games in four days to advance.

"You cannot think about Game 7 when you need to win a game," New York second baseman Robinson Cano said.

Yankees center fielder Curtis Granderson, benched along with third baseman Alex Rodriguez by manager Joe Girardi on Wednesday before the game was called, said the unplanned night off might actually help him and his slumping team.

"It's definitely not going to hurt by any means," Granderson said. "We haven't played well to this point. Who knows? Change is always a good thing."

The first pitch Wednesday night was slated for 8:07 p.m. But shortly before the scheduled start, the crowd was informed of a delay. A radar forecast for the Detroit area was eventually posted on the scoreboard video screen, as if to explain to fans why there was no baseball despite what was still pleasant weather at the ballpark.

The postponement was announced after a delay of about 70 minutes. A misty rain finally began about 15 minutes

after the postponement was announced and steady rain followed shortly thereafter.

The Tigers are no strangers to rain in the playoffs. Last year, ace Justin Verlander had two starts cut short by bad weather—although both were on the road.

"A lot of people were pretty upset that Verlander didn't get to finish his start," Detroit catcher Alex Avila said. "So, I think people would be pretty upset if they didn't get to see Scherzer and Sabathia finish their starts as well. Major League Baseball is trying to protect not only the pitchers, but also play a clean game without having to stop and stuff like that."

After Game 1 of the 2011 ALCS at Texas was delayed twice for a total of 1 hour, 50 minutes, Game 2 was called off well before the scheduled first pitch because of a forecast calling for more wet weather. Then, it didn't rain that night.

There is also a chance of rain in Detroit during at least parts of Thursday and Friday, but the forecast calls for mostly sunny and partly cloudy skies late afternoon and early evening Thursday that would allow the teams to play ball.

the pitch. You don't expect things like that to happen."

This one was a much bigger deal, a drive that soared over the Cardinals bullpen in right field and was estimated at 421 feet.

"It was bad pitch. I was trying to go slider in and I didn't get it in there like I should have," Cain said. "I made a bad pitch and it cost us."

Cain was aware Carpenter had hit him well.

"It might affect what you're trying to do because you don't know his weaknesses," Cain

said. "But you've still got to make good pitches and that's what I failed to do."

Carpenter entered the game 1 for 5 in the postseason, all five pinch-hit appearances. He had an RBI single in the wild-card playoff against Atlanta. He got 14 of his 46 RBIs in April as the primary sub at first base for injured Lance Berkman.

On Tuesday, Carpenter was among a group of seldom-used hitters trying to stay sharp by facing Jake Westbrook in a simulated game. The rest of the

team had the day off.

Umpires called for the tarpaulin right after the Cardinals made it 3-1 on a run-scoring single by Shane Robinson and Cain was lifted.

"I've been caught before where you try to predict what's going to happen with the rain and started," Bochy said. "Just a couple years ago I started a pitcher thinking the same thing and it didn't rain for four or five innings. Then I put my starter in and then it started raining, and so it came back to bite me."

Jeter to have surgery, 4 to 5 months for recovery

DETROIT (AP)—Derek Jeter will have surgery on his broken left ankle, and the New York Yankees say the star shortstop could need four to five months to completely recover.

The Yankees said Wednesday that Jeter will be operated on Saturday by Dr. Robert Anderson in Charlotte, N.C. The timetable the team announced means Jeter likely would be ready to return sometime between the start of spring training in mid-February and late spring

training in mid-March.

General manager Brian Cashman called that a conservative estimate and left open the possibility that Jeter could come back sooner. Jeter had scans Sunday, which confirmed the fracture, and he saw Anderson on Tuesday.

"There's no new information," Cashman said. "Nothing seemed worse than what our team doctors saw."

Jeter has not accompanied the Yankees in Detroit.

Jeter, the Yankees' 38-year-

old captain, broke his ankle Saturday in the 12th inning of the AL championship series opener against Detroit while trying to field a ground ball.

Cashman said the four-to-five month timetable represents when Jeter would be fully ready to come back and play in a game.

"My understanding is that it's possible he will be ready earlier than that timeframe," Cashman said. "But it is best to at least put out there four, five months as a safer bet."

Armstrong out as Livestrong head, loses sponsors

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Already an outcast in cycling after a massive doping report, Lance Armstrong absorbed hits much closer to home Wednesday: to his wallet and his heart.

Armstrong was dumped by Nike, Anheuser-Busch and other sponsors, and he gave up the top spot at Livestrong, his beloved cancer-fighting charity, a week after an anti-doping agency released evidence of drug use by the seven-time Tour de France winner.

Armstrong stepped down as chairman of Livestrong in an attempt to minimize the damage caused by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency's report. USADA banned Armstrong from the sport for life and has ordered that his Tour titles be stripped, which could come before the end of the month.

"This organization, its mission and its supporters are incredibly dear to my heart," the cancer survivor said in a statement. "Today therefore, to spare the foundation any negative effects as a result of controversy surrounding my cycling career, I will conclude my chairmanship."

Minutes later, Nike dropped its personal sponsorship contract with him and issued a blistering statement that the company had been duped by his denials over the years.

"Due to the seemingly insurmountable evidence that



This Aug. 24, 2009 file photo shows Lance Armstrong during the opening session of the Livestrong Global Cancer Summit in Dublin, Ireland. Armstrong said Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2012, he is stepping down as chairman of his Livestrong cancer-fighting charity so the group can focus on its mission instead of its founder's problems.

Lance Armstrong participated in doping and misled Nike for more than a decade, it is with great sadness that we have terminated our contract with him. Nike does not condone the use of illegal performance enhancing drugs in any manner," the company said.

In 2001, the apparel company produced an anti-doping commercial, narrated by Armstrong, addressing allegations that he had used performance-enhancing drugs by mocking the question, "What am I on?" and answering that he trained on

his bicycle "six hours a day."

Brewing giant Anheuser-Busch followed Nike's lead, saying: "We have decided not to renew our relationship with Lance Armstrong when our current contract expires at the end of 2012."

Soon after, other sponsors also cut ties with him. Among them were Trek bicycles and Honey Stinger, a maker of foods and gels for athletes.

"We are in the process of removing Lance Armstrong's image and endorsement from our product packaging," a Honey Stinger spokesman said. An im-

age of Armstrong's signature that was on the site's front page earlier in the day appeared to be gone late Wednesday.

The FRS Co., which makes energy, diet and health drinks, said Armstrong had resigned from its board.

If there was a silver lining in the day for Armstrong, it was that his major sponsors said they will continue to support the charity, which started as the Lance Armstrong Foundation 15 years ago.

Another longtime sponsor, sportswear maker Oakley, said it is withholding a decision until the International Cycling Union - the governing body for cycling - decides if it will fight USADA's sanctions against Armstrong. UCI has until Oct. 31 to appeal USADA's sanctions against Armstrong to the world Court of Arbitration for Sport. If not, the penalties will stand.

Armstrong, who Forbes has estimated is worth about \$125 million, was not paid a salary as Livestrong chairman and will remain on the charity's 15-member board. The duties of leading the board will be turned over to vice chairman Jeff Garvey, who was founding chairman in 1997.

Garvey will be responsible for big-picture strategic planning and will assume some of the public appearances and meetings that Armstrong used to handle.

At the entrance to the Lives-

trough headquarters in Austin, autographed framed yellow jerseys from each tour win are mounted on a wall near the entrance. Armstrong had a conference call with employees on Wednesday to explain his decision.

"I've been better and I've been worse," Livestrong President and CEO Doug Ulman quoted Armstrong as telling employees when asked how he was feeling.

Armstrong denies doping despite USADA's report, intended to explain its decision in August to punish Armstrong. He claims to have passed hundreds of drug tests but chose not to fight USADA in one of the agency's arbitration hearings, saying the process was biased against him.

Crisis management experts say the denials aren't enough to mitigate damage to Livestrong. Gene Grabowski, executive vice president of Levick, a Washington, D.C.-based crisis and issues management firm, called Armstrong's move a good one for the foundation.

"It helps take the bull's-eye off the chairman's back," Grabowski said. "It enables the charity to show it is taking the situation seriously. It probably won't satisfy everyone, but it will satisfy a good number of people. It's a step he had to take."

Kelly O'Keefe, professor of brand strategy at Virginia Commonwealth University, said it

may be too late to completely salvage Livestrong's reputation. And Armstrong may never be able to fully resume his public role with the group, he said.

"From the brand perspective, Armstrong is done," O'Keefe said.

Unlike Tiger Woods and Michael Vick, athletes who also were embroiled in off-the-field scandals, Armstrong is tainted by charges of cheating in his sport, not transgressions in his personal life. After time away, Woods and Vick could return to the playing field to help redeem their public image.

"Armstrong doesn't have that. He's just a retired athlete with a tarnished image," O'Keefe said.

Nike's statement was notable both for the sudden decision to abandon him and the tone condemning an athlete it had strongly supported just a few days earlier. Armstrong tweeted earlier this month about a visit to Nike headquarters in Oregon.

The USADA report also had the disadvantage for Nike of putting previous allegations back in the spotlight, such as a claim from a 2006 lawsuit deposition given by Kathy LeMond, wife of Tour winner Greg LeMond, in which she accused Nike of paying cycling's international governing body to cover up a positive Armstrong drug test. Nike has denied the claim.

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Timberwolves star Love out 6-8 weeks, breaks hand



MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Kevin Love returned from the London Olympics determined to do what every veteran U.S. teammate of his had already done—lead his team to the playoffs.

The Minnesota Timberwolves will likely have to begin the first month of that pursuit without him.

The two-time All-Star broke his right hand in a morning workout Wednesday and will miss six to eight weeks.

Love broke the third and fourth metacarpals on his shooting hand in a workout before practice. It's a crushing blow to the Timberwolves, who already will be without star point guard Ricky Rubio for what is expected to be at least the first six weeks of the regular season while he recovers from a torn ACL in his left knee.

The Timberwolves open the regular season at home against Sacramento on Nov. 2.

Team owner Glen Taylor, speaking to reporters at half-time of the WNBA finals game, acknowledged his initial "why us?" feeling when he first heard the news in the morning. But he tried to keep a positive attitude about the situation, expressing hope that Love will only miss a month of the regular season and confidence that Derrick Williams and Dante Cunningham will take advantage of the extra playing time to help the Wolves for the future.

"I think all of our fans anticipated this season with great enthusiasm. We knew we were going to have to wait for Ricky, and now we have two guys to wait for," Taylor said, adding: "But again, I'm going to be positive about it and say we've got some young guys and let's see them step up."

All the work David Kahn and the rest of the front office did to add veteran depth this summer is about to be tested more than they ever could have imagined.

Love averaged 26 points and 13.3 rebounds last season, leading the team in both categories and emerging as the best power forward in the game. He signed a four-year contract in January worth more than \$60 million, then played a key role in the United States' march to the gold medal in London.

As the only NBA veteran on Team USA who had yet to appear in the playoffs, Love came back brimming with confidence that this was the year the Wolves would break through for the first time since 2004. That already was going to be a challenge in the powerful Western Conference without Rubio, the dynamic point guard who quickly became the glue that held this young team together before injuring his knee in a game against the Lakers on March 9.

But with veteran additions Andrei Kirilenko, Brandon Roy, Greg Stiemsma and Cun-



Minnesota Timberwolves' Kevin Love, right, pulls up for a shot as Maccabi Haifa's James Thomas defends in the first half of an NBA exhibition basketball game against the Israeli team, Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2012, in Minneapolis.

ningham, Love was convinced they would be able to weather playing without Rubio better than last season, when they lost 20 of their last 25 games after he went down.

"We have a great training camp and we can get off to a good start and guys stay healthy, there's really no telling what we can do," Love said just before training camp opened. "I know a lot of teams in the Western Conference have loaded up, but I still feel we can knock those teams off and have a really good year."

Two weeks before the season has even started, the wishes for good health are already out the window. Love, who scored 24 points and grabbed eight re-

bounds in a preseason win over Maccabi Haifa on Tuesday night, was scheduled to fly to New York for an examination by Dr. Andy Weiland on Thursday.

He had a similar injury to his left hand in mid-October of 2009 and wound up missing the first 18 games of the regular season.

The injury likely means more playing time for Williams, last year's second overall pick. With Love at power forward, Williams worked diligently to lose some weight, reshape his body and work on his ball-handling to try to earn more minutes at small forward.

Williams has always been more comfortable at power

forward, so this could be the opportunity for him to make a consistent impact that coach Rick Adelman has been waiting to see from him. Williams impressed coaches with his physical conditioning and aggressive approach to practice when training camp began, but the playing time has still been sporadic.

He played just seven minutes Tuesday night against Haifa while Adelman took longer looks at the starting unit and Cunningham off the bench at power forward. Cunningham and Lou Amundson have both impressed Adelman with their tenacity and aggressiveness both in games and during practice.

"I think he's really an energy guy," Adelman has said about Cunningham. "Very good defender. Does all the little things. Him and Lou are very similar. The things that maybe we didn't do so well last year, running down loose balls, getting to the offensive boards, keeping the boards alive."

Adelman also has the versatile Kirilenko, who can play both forward positions, to lean on. He could choose to slide Kirilenko to power forward and use Chase Budinger at the small forward in another start-

ing lineup.

Love's absence will also put more pressure on veteran shooting guard Brandon Roy's knees to hold up. Roy was signed in the offseason after missing last year with chronic knee issues. He has held up very well so far in the preseason, and his scoring now becomes even more crucial to fill Love's void.

Taylor said he didn't know any more specifics about how Love was hurt. He said "all options are open" for adding another player to the roster to fill in for now.

Cuban not too concerned about Nowitzki's knee

DALLAS (AP)—Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban said Wednesday night that he isn't concerned about Dirk Nowitzki's right knee because of the 11-time All-Star's history of dealing with injuries.

Nowitzki missed his third straight preseason game Wednesday night with a swollen right knee.

The 2011 Finals MVP said Monday he hopes it will respond to a reduced workload this week so he can avoid surgery.

"He went through it earlier in his career with his ankle, now his knee," Cuban said. "We saw it last year and we dealt with it. We'll deal with it again this year however we need to. He's got the best training and medical staff in the league."

Nowitzki had the same issue in the same knee early last season. The Mavericks held him out for a four-game stretch in January to improve his game conditioning and give him time to strengthen his right knee.

Once he returned, Nowitzki did not miss any time the rest of the season.

Earlier in Nowitzki's career, he struggled with ankle injuries. He has never missed more than nine games in a season.

"Whatever is going happen, we're going to be fine," Cuban said. "We've been through this before many times."

Nowitzki said Monday he is going to limit workouts to time

in the pool and on the elliptical machine, which he was working out on in the training room before the Mavericks played the Phoenix Suns.

Nowitzki hopes this will reduce the swelling so he can return to the court next week. If surgery is needed, he would most likely be sidelined into the regular season.

Cuban was back in his customary courtside seat Wednesday night. He said this was the first preseason game he'd attended in two years.

Dallas guard Delonte West returned for the Mavericks after he was reinstated from a suspension which lasted less than a day.

Houston, coach Rick Carlisle suspended West without offering any details. The ban was lifted Tuesday night after the ninth-year guard met with Carlisle and president of basketball operations Donnie Nelson.

West entered the game midway through the first quarter Wednesday night. Cuban downplayed West's brief suspension.

"He's his own unique brand of maintenance," Cuban said. "But we're used to it. We knew that going in ... He's such a competitor. Sometimes it gets the best of him."

West was a valuable player off the Dallas bench last season and is expected to fill a similar role in 2012-13.

NFL responds to Vilma, NFLPA lawsuits



NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The NFL is again urging a federal judge to avoid interfering in Commissioner Roger Goodell's efforts to discipline four players for the Saints' cash-for-hits bounty pool.

In a response Wednesday to papers the players filed earlier this week, the NFL says its collective bargaining agreement with the players' union gives Goodell the power to handle discipline involving conduct detrimental to football "at his discretion."

U.S. District Judge Ginger Berrigan is considering the players' request to overturn varying suspensions to Saints linebacker Jon Vilma (full season), Saints defensive end Will Smith (four games), free agent defensive lineman Anthony Hargrove (seven games) and Cleveland linebacker Scott Fujita (one game).

The players also want Berrigan to appoint a "neutral arbitrator" to handle any discipline in the matter.

The NFL argues that the play-

ers' request "turns the CBA (and the law) on its head."

"The parties agreed to 'trust in (the Commissioner's) personal judgment,' the papers filed by the NFL said.

The players have argued Goodell's public comments about the matter, dating to before he had even disciplined to the players, prove he cannot be impartial, and therefore has violated the players' industrial due process rights, which are also an inherent part the league's labor deal.

The NFL responded that the standard to prove partiality for an arbitrator within the framework of a labor agreement is much higher than for a judge in a court case. The league cited case law stating, "Nothing in the parties' contract requires arbitrators to arrive with empty heads."

The NFL also argued its evidence in the bounty matter is strong enough to justify the commissioner's actions, whether he was partial to one side or not.

"When all of the circumstances are considered, it is clear that the reasonable observer would not have to conclude that ... the outcome is due to 'bias,'" the NFL said. "The circumstances here include the fact that Plaintiffs do not dispute that the Saints program offered incentives for cart-offs and knockouts, and that cart-offs and knockouts were plays in which an opposing player was disabled or injured, at least temporarily."

"Not disputing that this program existed, Plaintiffs should not be heard to complain that an adverse appeal decision would have to be due to bias."

CFL Sharks to hold fundraiser for Manila game

By **WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Football League's Sharks are putting on a happy hour fundraiser on Oct. 27 at Club V in Kanoa Resort.

Proceeds will go toward the team's trip to Manila, Philippines where it will play against the American Football Federation of the Philippines' Punishers on Nov. 10.

The fundraiser is scheduled to start at 7pm and will include a raffle drawing, in addition to food, music and discounted drinks throughout the evening. Tickets cost \$15 per person, which en-

CFL Sharks wide receiver Jermaine Catching leaps and makes a nice snag in this file photo taken during their practice session early this month at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Ballfield.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND



RGA October Ace Sunday at Kingfisher



The Refaluwasch Golfers Association is holding its October Ace of the Month Tournament this Sunday at the Kingfisher Golf Links in Talofofo.

Show time is set for 11am with a noon tee off.

The score to beat for the

weekend tournament is Diwain Stephens's 68, which was made during the October qualifier early this month, also at Kingfisher. If no RGA member scores better than 68, Stephens gets to keep the October Ace and qualifies for the club championship set at the end of this year.

The club's other Ace quali-

fiers include January Ace Ki Soo Kim, February's Tony Rogolifoi, March's Jordon Kosam, April's Joe Soares, May's Lawrence Camacho, June's Tars Olopai, July's Ray Tigilau, August's Ahn Hun Jin, and September's Many Magarero.

With the end of the season

quickly approaching, new and veteran RGA members are strongly encouraged to join the weekend tournament.

For more information, contact RGA's Joe Soares at 483-5506 or Jess Wabol at 288-8819; inquiries can also be emailed to cnmirga@gmail.com. *(Walter Cepeda Sutherland)*

GCA

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semis pairing. The Eagles-Geckos' finale is set for today at 4pm with the former hoping to defend the championship they won against the latter last season. The defending champion survived SIS in a three-set title match last year, 26-24, 24-26, 15-8. The Geckos recorded a similar three-set victory over the Eagles in the finals of the 2010-2011 season, 19-25, 25-

23, 15-12.

If SIS wants to avenge its loss to GCA today, the Geckos must find a way to neutralize James Libut, who delivered the killer blows in the Eagles' sweep of the MCS Knights yesterday.

Libut gave GCA a lot of points off his booming kills. In the first set, he teamed up with brother Jonathan and Genesis Manglona in manning the Eagles' frontline. Manglona made a couple of kills, too, while Jonathan set up his brother well for those powerful kills.

The rest of GCA players were steady in receiving the ball and committed lesser errors on returns and serves to move within a set of earning a return trip to the finals.

In the second set, Mt. Carmel got off to a good start when it led, 3-0. However, the moment Libut got into his rhythm and found allies in Jun Kitagawa and Kemner Sugue, the Knights paid the price for not putting enough defenders at the net to stop GCA's attack.

GCA and SIS' victories yes-

terday were their first in the playoffs, as they both earned byes in the first round after placing in the Top 2 in the double-round robin regular season. The Eagles were undefeated in 10 games, while the Geckos held an 8-2 record, absorbing both defeats at the hands of GCA.

The Geckos had two other teams entered in the field, but SIS Green and White bowed to Mt. Carmel and MBA, respectively, in the first round of the playoffs last Wednesday.

frontline. Lauron had 18 points, while Diaz added 8 to offset Brian Ajoste's 25 for Zhaila's.

First Game

Gualo Rai 71 – Estolas 22, Lauron 18, Babauta 9, Diaz 8, Cabrera 6, Jose 2, Dayrit 1.

Zhaila's 67 – Ajoste 25, Chan 14, Ja. Bahillo 8, Tudela 4, E. Lansang 4, Mostales 2, R. Lansang 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-16, 39-31, 55-48, 71-67.

Second Game

Brgy. San Antonio 91 – Cadiang 21, Villanueva 13, N. Salem 12, Palacios 12, De Guzman 10, Aranda 6, Alegre 4, Saturno 4.

KFC/Taco Bell 85 – Maranan 21, Factor 19, R. Francisco 12, Fernand 9, Black 6, Tinio 5, Dela Rosa 5, M. Francisco 3.

Scoring by quarters: 23-12, 40-39, 72-65, 91-85.

SAN ANTONIO

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line, going 3-for-6.

Melvin Cadiang had 21 points for San Antonio, which drew double figures from four other players. Maranan also had 21 markers for KFC, while Prince Factor added 19,

Factor made 9 of his total points in the first quarter, lifting KFC to a 23-12 lead. However, San Antonio slowly recovered, as it pushed up the tempo of the game and capitalized on the foul troubles of KFC's big men.

Erick Dela Rosa and Norman Black were saddled with four fouls each in the third quarter, leaving KFC with no inside threat. They then fouled out in the opening minutes of the fourth.

With their frontliners out, Maranan, Factor, and Ralph Francisco tried to keep KFC

afloat and succeeded, as the dethroned champion moved within one after Factor's putback, 71-72. KFC then had several chances to retake the lead, but missed its next four point-blank shots, while Nevin Salem escaped with a fastbreak layup to give San Antonio more cushion, with less than three minutes left on the clock.

Then in the last two minutes, San Antonio was holding a shaky 82-80 lead, when it made two putbacks to stretch its advantage. Mike Saturno made the first follow-up, as the burly forward beat a much smaller KFC player for the offensive rebound. A Maranan error at midcourt paved way for another San Antonio putback, as Adrian Palacios picked up the loose ball, went for a fastbreak, and missed, but Cadiang did a good trailer job for the second-chance basket.

Maranan redeemed himself

with a triple in the ensuing play, but his incomplete 4-point play boosted San Antonio's bid to enter the finals.

In the first semis game, Jun Estolas and his ragtag Gualo Rai crew had cruise control to eke out an upset over the second-ranked Zhaila's, which missed shooter Jeff Bahillo in the important game.

Estolas scored 22 points for Gualo Rai, which led at the end of each of the first three quarters and remained on top in the fourth with the former scoring 8 points in the final canto, including 5 of the team's last 6 points.

With Bahillo out, Zhaila's potent 3-point shooting lacked luster. Zhaila's only made 2 triples and the second came when the game was already decided, while Gualo went for easy two-pointers and dominated the paint with Alex Lauron and Zack Diaz manning the

titles each holder to a free drink and a chance to win prizes.

The Sharks are bringing around 30 of their core players in the Philippines to take on the Punishers. The team has been practicing since late July and began dressing in pads last month, however, it has yet to suit up for a real game, or even a full scrimmage. Still, the Sharks have been working hard at practice, four days a week, and are showing significant improvement every day in preparation for their debut.

The Punishers, on the other hand, are a new addition to the AFFP and have played four exhibition games this year since April and won three of them. The group twice downed the Hong Kong Cobras and shut out

another challenger, branded the Beijing Guardians, but fell to a select group from Guam's Millier-Lite Football League.

Meanwhile, the Sharks will hold more fundraisers as they are still in need of additional equipment, such as proper footwear, football pants, and leg pads, and materials to prepare the CPA Field for some scrimmages and the highly anticipated Dec. 1 date with Guam's MLFL All-Stars.

Any interested donors, sponsors, and supporters who want to help the Sharks, whether it is by lending equipment, or selling any unused equipment at a discounted price, can contact CFL's John Blanco at johnsblanco@gmail.com.

ANGELO

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interesting.

Q: Why do you like to play football?

A: I like to play football because I want to learn all the tricks and it's just so fun. It keeps me healthy and helps me stay in shape.

Q: What are your greatest football achievements?

A: I made my first goal on my first year of playing football. I scored a goal from almost half of the field. I continue to improve and learn tricks, like controls, passes, and shooting.

Q: What other message can you share with the football community?

A: Football is an awesome sport. I never expected this sport

to be my favorite until I started playing.

"Angelo has only been playing for three seasons but he has quickly become a leader on and off the field. It is clear how much he enjoys playing and has worked really hard to catch up to the level of more experienced players. His dedication and passion for the sport really stand out. Angelo always has a soccer ball with him, every opportunity he has he is trying to improve his ball control. Also, Angelo's ability to read the game, his field vision, has really improved over the past season. He has been a tremendous help to his team with his ability to get open or see an open player on the pitch."

—Angelo's coach **Lee Epperson**.

TIANA

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to play with her.

Q: Why do you like to play football?

A: I've never really had a passion for any other sport. Playing with my team and others is so much fun.

Q: What are your greatest football achievements?

A: I'll never forget the U13/14 team that I've played with for nearly three years. Winning the championships for several seasons is an amazing experience and my teammates have changed my life forever.

Q: What other message can you share with the football community?

A: Play your hearts out on the field. Whether you're a professional or not, play your best. You can gain a lot of experience and even make new friends. Have fun and enjoy the sport.

Forget the trophy and the glory, what matters is how well you've played for your team.

"Tiana is the leader of our team. On the field, she anchors our defense, preventing teams from scoring and making plays to give us a chance to win every time. On the sidelines, she inspires her teammates to continue playing hard. Away from the pitch, Tiana is an amazing young woman, as kind as anyone I have met and caring for others, an excellent student as well. A true ambassador for the sport. Tiana has many skills and talents but her greatest strength is her ability to get anywhere on the pitch in order to make a play. She clears the ball very well and is a true force in the center of any defense. She is the perfect mould for her position—strong, quick, and aggressive."

—Tiana's coach **Lee Epperson**.

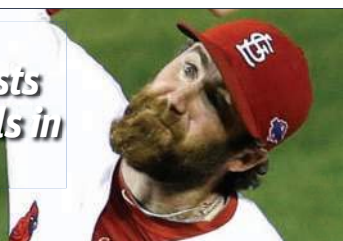
5 SAIPAN

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Raymond also joined the men's singles along with their youngest brother, Raphael, and they were ranked No. 17 and

No. 31, respectively. The Zapanta siblings then entered the men's all events with Raymond making it into the next round after finishing at No. 15 in the 66-bowler field and barging into the 16-player cut for the Men's Masters Finals.

**Beltran
sub boosts
Cardinals in
Game 3**
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**Armstrong out
as Livestrong
head, loses
sponsors**
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

GCA vs SIS in finals rematch

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

For the third straight season, Grace Christian Academy and Saipan International School will dispute the varsity championship in the Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League.



The Eagles and Geckos arranged their title duel after sweeping separate foes in the semifinal round of the varsity competition yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. In the first semis game, GCA ousted Mt. Carmel School, 25-15, 25-14, while SIS Blue also had a two-set win (final scores were unavailable) against Marianas Baptist Academy in the second

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Grace Christian Academy's James Libut hits one of his booming kills against Mt. Carmel School during their semis game in the COPSSA varsity volleyball league yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

NMIFA YOUTH PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



Name: **Angelo Guevarra**
Age Group: **U18**
Team: **Matansa FC**
Position: **Forward/Midfielder**
Jersey No.: **#19**
Years of Playing Experience: **1 year**
Village: **Achugao**
School: **Kagman High School**
Grade: **12**
Favorite Player or Team: **Manchester United / Wayne Rooney**

Q: How did you become interested in football?

A: My friends and I wanted to try something new, so we heard that there were tryouts for soccer. We just gave it a shot because it seems fun and

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Name: **Tiana Ranjo**
Age Group: **U15**
Team: **Matansa FC**
Position: **Center Back Defender**
Jersey No.: **#35**
Years of Playing Experience: **10 years**
Village: **Capital Hill**
School: **Marianas Baptist Academy**
Grade: **10**
Favorite Player or Team: **Manchester United**

Q: How did you become interested in football?

A: I started playing soccer at a very young age, so it became a habit and I join competitions every season. Also, my friend is playing and I really wanted

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San Antonio dethrones KFC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Brgy. San Antonio denied KFC/Taco a return trip to the finals after pulling off a hard earned 91-85 victory in the semifinals of the 2012 DLX/Gualo Rai Invitational Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

San Antonio recovered from a sluggish start and then withstood KFC/Taco Bell's repeated rallies in the fourth canto to clinch the second finals berth and arrange a title showdown against the resurgent Gualo Rai.

Gualo Rai had earlier taken the first finals ticket after edging Zhaila's All-Starz in the

Brgy. San Antonio's Melvin Cadiang pulls up for a long jumper against KFC's Herbert Maranan during their semis game in the DLX caging last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



first semis pairing, 71-65. Gualo Rai and San Antonio will go for all the marbles in tonight's championship game at 8pm. Zhaila's All-Starz and KFC will play in the consolation match at 6:30pm.

KFC had to settle for the third place game after bungling an 11-point lead in the opening canto and falling short in its comeback bid in the last 54.2 seconds of the match. The erstwhile champion made one final push to keep its finals hopes alive when Herbert Maranan converted a trey from the right key and drew a foul. KFC cut San Antonio's lead to three, 83-86, and could have moved closer, but Maranan missed the bonus charity.

San Antonio got the rebounded and JP Villanueva won a footrace for a fastbreak layup, upping their lead to five, 88-83, with 48 seconds left on the clock.

KFC then went 1-for-4 in its field goal attempts in the ensuing plays, losing its chances to steal the game, while San Antonio sealed the win from the foul

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5 Saipan bowlers to compete in Asian Intercity

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

A five-man team from Saipan Bowling Association will be competing in the 26th Asian Intercity Bowling Championships being hosted in Georgetown, in Penang, Malaysia.

The squad is composed of brothers Ruselle and Raymond Zapanta, Ariel Dumapit, Bernard Paraiso, and perfect-gamer Robert Talavera. SBA secretary/treasurer Ross Zapanta is the team manager.

The Saipan bowlers are entered in the singles, doubles, masters, and team competitions of the annual event that started yesterday and will run until Oct. 24. They left the island last Wednesday morning for a connecting flight in Manila and arrived in the host city yesterday afternoon.

The SBA delegates are expected to practice at the Premium Lanes Penang today, as actual action in the Asian Intercity will not kick off until tomorrow. The Saipan bowlers

are also joining tonight's opening ceremony in the company of the representatives of more than 100 Asian Intercity-members.

After tonight's opener, the SBA bets will compete in the singles event tomorrow, while the doubles contest is set for Sunday. Block 1 and 2 entries in team events will then play on Monday and Tuesday, while the masters event is set for Wednesday.

In this weekend's Asian Intercity, the five Saipan keglers are hoping to surpass SBA's performance in the same competition held in Singapore last year.

Ruselle Zapanta was SBA's top finisher in the Singapore tournament, placing fourth out of 66 bowlers in the men's singles event. He missed the third place medal by only five pinfalls, as he collected 1,279 pinfalls against the 1,284 of Macau's Tam Tsz Sun. However, Ruselle's feat was the best by any Saipan bowler since SBA joined the Asian Intercity in Busan, Korea in 2001.

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